





*To T. M. Jones from
the author*

AN
ESSAY

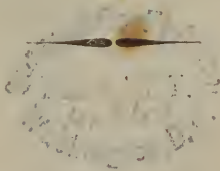
ON THE

SCIENCE OF BONE SETTING.

BY WATERMAN SWEET,

NATURAL ANATOMIST AND BONE SETTER:

In which the Author undertakes to prove, that Surgery and Anatomy are
intuitive Sciences, and which can be understood only by those who
have a talent for the profession, and are endowed by nature
with the sufficient ability to discharge the duties
of one of the most complicated sciences
known to man.



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TO THE AFFLICTED,
WHEREVER THEY MAY BE FOUND,

THIS PAMPHLET IS MOST RESPECTFULLY AND OBEDIENTLY DEDICATED,
BY THE AUTHOR,

WATERMAN SWEET,

SELF EDUCATED SURGEON AND NATURAL BONE SETTER.

Of each and all of you, I respectfully solicit a kind and attentive perusal of the essay I offer, and of the proofs I adduce, to satisfy the world, that the science of Anatomy, may be, and is understood by those who have not been regularly graduated in the hall of the physician.

Providence, R. I. April 10, 1829.

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AN ESSAY.

THE man who shall venture to offer his professional services to the world, without being possessed of "a diploma from the College of Physicians at Edinburgh," must calculate to be assailed with all the malevolence, satire and ridicule of the "learned doctors;" and I am prepared to receive and repel all the odium which may be thrown at me. I know that by the "profession" I shall be scouted; I shall be pronounced an impostor and a quack; but since I am doubly fortified with proof, to sustain, and that too in the most satisfactory manner, my claims to eminence in the sciences of intuitive and self-taught surgery and anatomy, I care not what my revilers say of me. Whilst they, inflated with jealousy and grown arrogant with the possession of scholastic honors, have failed in their attempts to follow the healing art, I have succeeded; and in numerous instances have been called upon to attend to cases which they had abandoned as hopeless. Where they have failed, I have succeeded, as will be shown by the certificates which I shall presently offer for the perusal and consideration of the public.

Let it not be understood, that I attempt to assert, that any man, was ever by intuition, a practical surgeon or anatomist; on the contrary, I only say, that by intuition we all of us, have a taste for some particular science or profession. The painter, the poet, the machinist, the sculptor, all at an early age, evince a taste for the distinct professions they follow; by its impulses they are led onward, and he who never possessed an intuitive taste for any science, never succeeded in any thing. It is in vain that you may attempt to teach a man the art of

painting unless he possess a taste for it ; he may tug and toil, and cudgel his brains, and though he may learn like a common parrot, to imitate others, he will always be a mere dauber ! Who ever knew a musician, who had not an ear for music—who ever knew a painter, whose eye was not delighted with tints and shades of the pencil ; who ever knew a poet, who was not a worshipper at the shrine of the muses, and a lover of the wild and sublime ! We must all have an intuitive taste for the profession we follow ;—and no man ever assumed the study of any science, who had not for it an original and an intuitive predilection.

As for myself, I can speak without prejudice and without egotism, when I say, that from an early day of my infancy, I had a predilection for the science of anatomy. It was a study to which all my family were addicted in a greater or less degree ; and most if not all of them succeeded.

With pleasure I assure the public, that, together with a mind directed to this peculiar study, the practice of about forty years in different parts of America, and cases of almost every description that have come under my inspection, like all other sciences, is continually adding to my faculty in bone cases. Also, from a child I have often been engaged in procuring and preparing Roots and Herbs, and Bark, and have made some use of them, as directed by my father, who, from my childhood, has been a celebrated Bone Setter and Botanist ; and is, perhaps, as successful as most men in his calling. I also had the perusal of his ancient authors, as well as many of modern times : But I do not wish to boast of any of my performances, as boasting ought to be excluded, and cures and operations attributed to the blessing of God, through whose instrumentality I think I may with confidence and propriety say, many have been benefitted by my prescriptions and operations : As such, I do not wish to irritate or hurt the finest or tenderest feelings of Physicians, or any of my fellow-men ; neither do I by any means speak against cultivating talent or education, or the use of medical aid, or of apothecaries' medicine, in their proper place ; but think the rich and fertile shores productive of its own materials ; and furnishes medicine suited to the disorders and difficulties that its inhabitants are subject to, under the directions of the Supreme Being who endows by

constant impulses of mind, to search diligently after, by wisdom and education, to a knowledge of procuring and using for the benefit, and often, the recovery of the health, reparation and the proper use of our limbs. And as I am taught by experience no one man is endowed with all this knowledge; but God has imparted such parts of these arts, knowledge and science to whom he please. All may be useful in their own parts of the sciences, as the Lord has given wisdom and understanding to each one; and I think all ought to be faithful in their calling, and honest enough in heart to tell their clients, patients and employers, when called on in that branch they do not know, to direct them to those that do. In so doing, all might have employment in their own proper parts of the sciences, in all harmony and love; and answer that purpose for which we were intended by the great Creator—by doing to others as we would that others should do to us. I desire not to be understood by the former remarks, to speak against any surgeon or regular bred physician, only to claim an independent stand in those parts that I think Providence has assigned me, under the laws of a land of christian light and liberty.

To prove, that anatomy is an intuitive science, I will quote from a variety of authors, all of whom support me in my assertions.

The Count La Sallee, in one of his papers addressed to the Academy Des Arts at Paris, thus expresses himself in relation to this interesting subject. The paper is dated August 10, 1565.

“In my travels through the wilds of America, I visited most of the Indian tribes, which populate the regions of the west. I commenced my pilgrimage at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and ended it at the passes of the Mississippi. A nobler race of beings I never witnessed; and I was surprised when I found that though unacquainted with any of the sciences, they were masters of the art of surgery. During my travels I found a number of the aborigines, who had been wounded and mangled in the wars, but I never found one who was in the least deformed, by the fracture of bones, and the numerous accidents to which Indian warfare is liable. I had noticed in most of the hospitals of Europe, that but few of the inmates, who had been confined came out, without being lame and de-

formed ; and when I recollected this, I expressed my astonishment to the chiefs of the tribes that the invalids perfectly recovered the use of their limbs, and did not bear any of the marks of previous disaster. To my observations one of the chiefs replied, "you have men to mend limbs, who are taught by men to do so ; we obtain our knowledge from the Great Spirit. We are perfect, for our knowledge comes from the clouds ; yours comes from man only." I confess that I was thunder-struck with the reply ; but I could not but admit the justice and accuracy and pungency of the remark."

The celebrated Missionary John Zimmerman, as early as the year 1620, made a voyage to Patagonia, under the auspices of the Moravian church, and in one of his letters to the Synod, took an elaborate view of that people, and from the which, we make the following extract.

"I was not more surprised than delighted to find among this people, men who were practically and theoretically acquainted with Surgery, though they were unacquainted with the terms and phrases which are employed by civilized nations. I inquired of them how they become acquainted with the art, their reply was our God forms not his mortals without intelligence, and he has wisely ordained that we should all possess the capacity of supplying our wants. He that formed us, endowed us with the necessary knowledge to enable us to heal our wounds, and restore our fractured bones."

Such was the account that was given of the Patagonians by the pious Zimmerman ; and if it be admitted, as it certainly must, that our common God blessed the Indian, can it be supposed that he is less favourable to the enlightened white man ?

But I will not weary the reader with an elaborate essay on a subject of this kind, since I am satisfied that they will be convinced of my ability to practice in my profession, by the following certificates which I have received from a variety of our most respectable citizens, ladies and gentlemen of Providence and its vicinity. If any other proofs, than those which I now adduce were necessary, I could produce them ; but since I am confident that those which I shall furnish, will prove entirely satisfactory, I shall simply offer the following certificates.

CERTIFICATES.

THIS is to certify that I, Deacon Benjamin Sweet of Johnston, in the state of Rhode Island, and County of Providence, have for several years known Mr. Waterman Sweet, bone setter, and have been a witness to his decided and complete success, in a number of complicated and distressing cases.—His operations, have in several instances been performed in my house, and I do not hesitate to recommend him to the public, as proficient in the art which he professes and practices. From the decided success which Mr. Sweet has had for several years, as a friend of humanity and of public justice, I do most heartily recommend him to the attention and employment of the unfortunate.

BENJAMIN SWEET.

Providence, March 19, 1829.

I hereby certify, that about the month of July, 1827, my son Stephen Gardner, fell from a vessel to the wharf, and split and fractured his leg and put out his ankle, and was very lame and would have been a cripple all his days; but I called on Doct. Waterman Sweet, who in a very short time set his leg and ankle to my entire satisfaction. And I hereby do recommend him as a good Bone-Setter to any one who may have bones out of place, and have no doubt from the knowledge I have of him and his family, that his moral and religious character stand fair, and a man to be depended upon for truth and veracity.

HENRY GARDNER.

Newport, R. I. March 18th, 1829.

I hereby certify, that I have seen Doct. Waterman Sweet set bones, and that the above Certificate signed by Henry Gardner, is the truth, and that I was an eye witness to the fact above stated, and believe Doct. Waterman Sweet to understand setting, and has been very successful in many very difficult cases.

NATHANIEL SWEET.

Newport, R. I. March 18th, 1829.

We the undersigned have for many years been acquainted with the family of the Swets, and have seen them perform wonders far beyond what any of our best Physicians could do in the line of setting bones. We do cheerfully recommend Doct. Waterman Sweet as a man on whom the fullest confidence may be placed as a man of truth and veracity, and from what we have seen of his performances in the line of setting bones, and in particular in one case we saw Doct. Waterman Sweet set a leg and ankle that was out and in a very bad state, about the month of July, 1827. The young man would have been a cripple all his days for what our physicians could do, and we were faithless and unbelieving and prejudiced against them altogether, but when we saw with our own eyes were obliged to believe Mr. Sweet did set this young man's leg and ankle admirably well, and we resolved never again to say or think that any of the physicians can perform these operations like the Swets.

ABBY R. POTTER.

HENRY GARDNER.

Newport, March 18th, 1829.

This may certify, that I Richard Sweet of the town of Johnston, dislocated my ankle about three years ago, I called on a regular Physician and he said my ankle was only strained, and as Waterman Sweet was passing by I called him in, as I could not bear any weight at all on my feet, but had to go on crutches, and he said it was dislocated, and set it, and I could walk immediately, and did not use them since it got well immediately.

RICHARD SWEET.

Mr. John Hunt of Fall River came here in February, 1827, with a lameness upon him in consequence of having dislocated his shoulder in September 1826; the doctors had told him that it was not out although he continued lame and by my advice he applied to Mr. Waterman Sweet who pronounced it out, and immediately placed it in its proper place, from which moment he experienced relief, and in about a fortnight a perfect cure, and the entire use of his arm. He had previously consulted four Doctors in the vicinity of his place of residence, but experienced no relief from them. Mr. Sweet has also within a few days placed an ankle of my son, which had been out two years, and effected an immediate and perfect cure. WM. T. PULLEN.

Providence, March 20, 1828.

This is to certify, that my child James Augustus, was for sixteen months troubled with a lame leg, and was so much annoyed by it that he could not walk. Whilst it was in this distressing situation, I applied to Doctors Mauran and Miller, of this town, for professional aid. They both agreed in saying that no bone was out of place, and were of opinion that an abscess or tumor was gathering on the thigh, and recommended the application of blisters. I complied with these instructions for several months, and being satisfied that the child was undergoing unnecessary torture, I abandoned the process. In this stage of the affair, I called on Doctor Waterman Sweet, natural Bone Setter, and requested his opinion. After a moment's examination, he informed me that the child's thigh was out of joint, and said that he could replace it, though he was not certain that a positive cure could be effected. He, however, performed an operation, and I am happy to say that the boy is fast recovering, and, as I hope, will in a very short time possess the original and complete use of his limbs.

I do further certify, that my son, William Henry Carder, by misfortune displaced the two large joints of his thumb, and that on application to Doctor Sweet, they were replaced without delay, and the boy is now perfectly well.

WM. CARDER.

This may certify, that I have been acquainted with Mr. Waterman Sweet for several years, and that he has boarded with me four winters in succession, which has afforded me sufficient opportunities to witness his operations on dislocated joints and broken bones, to the general satisfaction of all those who have called on him for assistance, and others of his acquaintances who are satisfied that he is a natural BONE SETTER.

JESSE AMSBURY.

February, 1829, I fell from a two story house, broke my arm, put out my elbow, both wrists, and both thumbs. I called on Waterman Sweet, and he replaced them to my satisfaction; and I have got well so as to be about my work.

CALEB WHITFORD.

Providence, February 28, 1829.

This may certify, that I dislocated my shoulder the 7th of January, and I called on Waterman Sweet a few days after, and he replaced it. It has got well, so that I have been some time to work, and it does not hurt me: I consider it well.

SARAH WOOD.

Providence, March 19, 1829.

This may certify, that I dislocated my wrist, and after suffering great distress, in consequence of it, about four weeks, I called on Waterman Sweet, and after his operation on it, I immediately found relief from pain. It has been gaining ever since, and I now consider it well.

SUSAN JORDAN.

Providence, Feb. 1829.

Hearing that there was a controversy between the Physicians of Providence and Mr. Waterman Sweet, bone setter, and having tried the professional skill of Mr. Sweet, I here beg leave to state facts as they are.

About one month since, my anele joint was put out by a fall, and my friends advised me to call on a very eminent physieian of this town: I did so, and he examined my leg and pronounced, that there was no bone out. I paid him for his services and dismissed him. It continued to pain me very much, and being confined to my room, I was prevailed upon to employ Dr. Sweet. When he looked at my leg, he pronounced, in one moment, that there were two bones out of joint. He went to work, and in about five minutes he set both bones; and I was able immediately to walk without crutches, before which I could not walk, or even touch my foot to the ground. I do believe him to be the greatest bone setter in the United States.

PATRICK BAXTER.

I hereby certify, that my wife, Mrs. Mary L. Southworth, more than three years ago, injured her foot, and displaced a bone, and for nearly two years was scarcely able to walk. I consulted the most eminent surgeons, and they united in saying that there was no bone displaced. In December last, contrary to my wishes, a friend invited Mr. Waterman Sweet to examine the foot; he declared there was a bone out, and immediately replaced it. From that day to this Mrs. Southworth has been as able to walk as she ever was, and suffers no inconvenience from her foot.

SYLVESTER S. SOUTHWORTH.

Providence, April 2, 1829.

We, the subscribers, residents of the County of Montgomery, in the State of New-York, do hereby certify, that we have for several years known Mr. Waterman Sweet, and have always heard him spoken of as a man of good moral character, and as a successful practitioner in the art of bone setting. Having every confidence in his ability and skill, we recommend him to the attention of those who are so unfortunate as to dislocate their joints, or fracture their bones.

JOHN S. SCHUYLER,
JUBEL LIVERMORE.
ISAAC JACKSON.

Florida, April 1, 1829.

I do hereby certify, that Waterman Sweet set a bone in my ankle, which was dislocated, and from that day I have not been annoyed with it, or endured any pain. I also certify, that my two daughters, Frances T. R. Waterman and Betsey Waterman, availed themselves of his professional aid. Frances had her knee dislocated, and it had remained so for several weeks, when I called on Mr. Waterman Sweet, and he set it in a few moments, and she is now well. My daughter Betsey was unfortunate enough to dislocate her hip, knee and ankle, all of which joints were set by Doctor Sweet in a little time, and she is now in the perfect enjoyment of her limbs. My grandson, Daniel Steere, also availed himself of Mr. Sweet's services, when having dislocated his ankle, and it was immediately restored. From the knowledge I have had of Mr. Sweet, and the success that he has had in my immediate family, I, as well as my daughters and grandson, do recommend him to the patronage and attention of all who are so unfortunate as to require the services of a bone setter or surgeon; and in fulfilment of this wish have hereunto set our hands.

DANIEL WATERMAN,
BETSEY WATERMAN,
F. T. R. WATERMAN,
DANIEL STEERE.

Johnston, April 11, 1829.

I hereby certify, that rising of seven years past, I had the thigh, knee and ankle of my left leg dislocated so far that my thigh and ankle bones were entirely out of place, and the joints stiff, my knee moved partly out of joint but not entirely stiff. Sundry able surgeons were employed at the time, from whom I received no benefit, and I despaired of ever again having the use of my joints or a sound leg, until a short time since, when I heard of WATERMAN SWEET, the bone setter, whom I immediately employed, and after following his directions a few days he replaced my ankle; cheered by the success and the fond anticipation of having my joints restored to their former use, I cheerfully awaited the result, which in a few days terminated for the better; he replaced my thigh and knee without causing but very little pain compared to what I anticipated, or had undergone heretofore; it has now been about four weeks since, and I can walk without limping; but very little previous my leg was about two inches shorter than the other; it is now nearly as long and bids fair to become sound. The benefit I have already received is considerable, and cannot be better appreciated than by an unfortunate cripple, previously doomed by the ablest surgeons to wear out this life with a stiff leg and dislocated joints, again being restored to active life.

JOSEPH A. CHEDEL.

Providence, March 6, 1829.

The person whose name is attached to the above certificate, having lived with me for some time past, I do hereby attest and certify that his ankle, knee and thigh bones were dislocated as above described, thereby rendering that leg considerably shorter than the other, and the joints almost useless. I further certify, that I was present at the time that said Sweet replaced his thigh bone, and that it is now in its proper place, and appears to be in a fair way to become well and sound. Considering the length of time that said bones have been displaced, I consider the act of replacing them, one of rare and uncommon performance, and the person who performed it, to be one of superior skill in his profession, and on whom all persons that are afflicted with broken and dislocated bones can safely depend.

WILLARD A. HANDY.

Providence, R. I. March 6th, 1829.

I hereby certify, that I moved a joint in my neck by a turn of my head to pin my clothes, which gave me pain and distress, and I could not raise my head erect. I called on Waterman Sweet and he replaccd it, so that I soon got well.

PRUDENCE BAXTER.

North Providence, Feb. 20, 1829.

In consideration of the short pilgrimage of man here, and the certainty of death, and uncertainty of long life, as well as some weighty impulses of mind of the necessity of being useful to my fellow creatures in the most useful science, in benefitting the unfortunate and distressed; that not only the rich, but the poor of the land might experience ease and restoration of broken bones and dislocated joints, as most people have been on whom I have performed operations. For about five months the number on which I have operated, has been about two hundred and fifty bones out of joint, including a few broken bones, as my memorandum of names and different joints in these regions, from new cases to that from five to ten years standing, as informed by patients, very few have been unsuccessful, by the blessing of God, which encourages me, by particular desire of a large number of the respectable inhabitants of Providence and its vicinity, from the Governor of the State down to those poor as to property, to take up my residence here, as much as I consistently can, to wait on all who may be pleased to call on me, as a servant to the public. The poor may receive equal benefit as the rich, who call at my office, on moderate terms—if very poor, gratuitous. The above certificates I adduce to the public, on the above conditions, for the benefit of the unfortunate, and the answer of a good conscience to God and man. I have more certificates on hand, if more reference is desired; and many more I expect soon to receive from those who were my patients a long time ago.

Permit me just to say to the public, that I have been, although in my feeble and unlearned way, trying to preach Christ and him crucified, about twenty years, by being licenced by different churches in the Baptist order, and to exhort and pray men, in Christ's stead, to be reconciled to God; and I still feel willing my tongue should bear his part in proclaiming that gospel which I trust I have not received of man; neither by man, but by the Holy Ghost, whether man will hear or forbear.

I submit my pamphlet to the consideration and perusal of the public, with my most sincere thanks to the people for the patronage they have shown me in these regions, and to whoever these lines may come.

I subscribe myself your most obedient servant,

WATERMAN SWEET.

Providence, May, 1829.

On the 24th of February, 1831, in the city of New-York, by particular impulses of mind, I began the work of writing and publishing a Narrative of my Life and Adventures, up to the present time.

PREFACE

To the Life and Adventures of Waterman Sweet.

By my short narrative, I do not intend to make any entirely new disclosures, or to display any great talents, for I profess no scientific acquirements. Having been brought up in the country most of my days, I have had but little time or opportunity to acquire an education, being bred to the farming business in the wilds of the state of New-York,"as I shall hereafter show. By peculiar and constant impulses of mind on this subject, I trust directed or influenced by the good Spirit of the Lord, to take my pen in hand to give as concise a narrative as the Lord may enable me from memory, having never kept a journal in any degree. I trust my only motive in view is the glory of God and the good of my fellows in life, both in temporal and spiritual blessings, by disclosing my own experience in natural and spiritual things, as blessings and crosses and trials have opened to my view, may have a tendency to bring past experience to present view, solely for the mutual good, happiness and satisfaction of those who may be induced to give this treatise a reading. May the blessing of the great I AM attend the communications for present and future benefit, to all who may peruse the same.

I subscribe myself, an Obedient Servant to a grateful and most Respected Public, to which I am indebted for patronage in a science most useful to humanity and restoration of dislocated limbs, being a native of Rhode Island.

WATERMAN SWEET.

NARRATIVE.

Courteous Reader :—

I NOW pen a few reflections of past experience, for the perusal of those who may think proper to give it a perusal and examination. I hope it may not have a tendency for the worse, but the better, while I undertake to set forth the place of my nativity, my parentage, progress and adventures in life to the present time, hoping that the blessing of the Most High may attend the manuscript for present and future well being to my fellows and superiors in life.

I proceed to speak of my parentage. My father was born in Warwick, R. I. While an infant, my grandfather, Matthew Sweet, removed to Smithfield, six miles north of Providence Plantation, where he was brought up to the farming business, till he saw fit to take to the study of physisc and surgery, being possessed of the science of natural bone setting, as well as his father and ancestors before him. His name was Samuel Sweet. My mother was born in North Providence, about four miles out of Old Providence. She was a daughter of Nathaniel Waterman—her name was Hannah Waterman. They were married about the year, 1792. Their first child was a daughter, who did not long survive. After whom, in 1796, the 8th day of April, I was born, in the town of Johnston, R. I. about six miles northwest of Providence, of poor parentage. As my parents inform me, they began their career in life bare handed, as the saying is, yet respected as citizens, and of a reputable character, which they have ever sustained, both moral and religious, to a good old age. Father is in the eighty-third year of his age, and mother in the eighty-sixth, now alive. In the Revolution, my father moved to Woodstock, (Conn.) when I was an infant, where I first came to a knowledge of time and things. After a short time he removed to Pomfret in the state aforesaid, and from thence to Killingly, one year from that time, in February before peace was declared. In May, father removed to the city of Newport, R. I. where we re-

mained six years, and my father followed the coasting business in the river and to Virginia and Carolina for a livelihood, as by the depreciation of paper money he lost most he had accumulated before, times being hard. Although my father, by prudence and frugality in business, had bought half a house, and owned a small sloop, which he sold and bought a third of a larger one, and built a quarter of a sloop of ninety tuns, as times were, and property depreciated, he thought best to sell all he had at a sacrifice, and try the wilds of New-York for an assylum or residence. When he had collected all his property together he had only five hundred dollars to take with him, and that in West India goods, as money was so scarce he could procure scarcely enough to move with. We set sail for a wilderness about forty miles north of Albany, designated as Kay-aderosseras Patent, where he had previously made a purchase of what he thought the most fertile soil laying on or near the said creek. The interval was covered with alder bushes, the upland with hemlock and spruce, mixed with various other kinds of timber. When we came to clear it up and cultivate it, it proved cold sand land, very different from our expectation. By this time my father had expended about half the goods he had started with. Being subject to frost, he was discouraged in a great measure, having lost our summer's labor by early frost, which occasioned a great scarcity of bread in this new place. Having labored hard to save a large fallow of wheat, which at harvest was so blasted that we hardly reaped the seed, he was still more discouraged. Our new habitation differed much from the dwelling we had left at Newport, which was a comfortable one. When we arrived at our new home we found a log or block house, put up of logs in this state, twenty-two feet square, and covered shed fashion with ash and elm bark, bound on with poles; the under floor of bass-wood logs split in halves and laid down and dotted so as to get about on them: there was no chimney, hearth, or even stone back, and no door nor a pane of glass. Here we lived from spring till cold weather came on, when we made some alterations to protect us against the cold. This building he erected in a fortnight, while his family remained at Ballston. As I pass on, I will relate the fortune of our passage to Albany. We had a short passage to New York; it blowed a gale, and in twenty-

six hours from Newport we arrived at New-York in safety, being, however, very sea-sick. After a few days we set sail for Albany, and having head winds and no real pilot we grounded, if my memory serves, nine times before we arrived at Albany, being nine days on the river. Soon after we left New-York, my father, while trying to get some fresh shad one evening, staid on the fishing ground late and got wet, and was taken with the pleurisy, which nearly proved mortal. But the Lord spared him to take care of us, my mother and three brothers, of whom I was the oldest. After much trouble and fatigue, we arrived at our new habitation in the wilderness; almost, as we might say, the outside house in our course as far as we knew towards Canada. Here we suffered hardships, trouble, cold and hunger. In the great severity, my father by some means obtained five dollars, and went to Lansingburgh and bought five bushels of Virginia corn, and hired some one to take it to the red mills in Milton, as now called, ten miles from home. He, knowing the situation he left the family in, got a bushel of corn ground and brought it home on his back, to our great comfort and satisfaction, as we had not had a mouthful of bread for three days, to the best of my recollection, and there was but one horse that could be had to go to mill within our acquaintance, as they were very scarce, and that was a mile and a half, as we called it, out of the woods, and a road but just cut through, and many mud holes that a horse or an ox could not pass without miring. Father had obtained a yoke of oxen and one cow, bartering some goods for them; and while moving in the woods he mired his oxen down several times, and we were obliged to carry a considerable portion of our goods, part or all the way for a mile and a half, on our backs. The first summer it took a great deal of labor to make a road passable at all, for we who were new settlers had to make about one third of the way cross-ways, or lay bridges to pass with sleds and oxen, which were, in a manner, all the carriages we had; and all the way we could do to pay for any land there was to begin a new place and make a little clearing and sell it and begin another and sell that, and at last in that dreary, wild, and hardest new settlement we ever have known to begin in, we were enabled to pay, after hard struggling about nine years, for a hundred acres of poor land that would scarcely bear any wheat and not very good for grass, corn and

rye. Oats, &c. we could raise, although it was very heavy clearing. We obtained at last a very comfortable support, although my father was the most part of his time from home, leaving me, though young, to drive the business and take care of the family. His doctoring and business abroad took up a considerable portion of his time, but when at home, being a stout and healthy man, he did as much work as any other.

But here I pause, and go back to the autumn of the second year after we arrived at the place before mentioned, now called Greenfield, Saratoga County.

I here state my father's second undertaking in the wilds of America, to procure a support or livelihood for himself and family. As I before mentioned, he was disheartened about living where he was at that time—all the talk was about going to Genesee as a lubber land; but it was so far and no road cut a great part of the way, many were afraid to go. But father being a resolute man and void of fear, determined on going to explore the new world, as it was called by many. Accordingly he set out in October, 1790, if my memory serves, and went on from Utica by marked trees, taking his lodging in wigwams with the natives, who were very kind and humane. He made his way through by the assistance of some Indian pilots, till he arrived at Canandaigua lake, where now stands a large and elegant village, where he found but one white family, that of a Mr. Smith, who had been some years with the natives. However, he, it seems, found General Israel Chapen, a land holder, of whom he purchased a mile square of land, situate on both sides of the outlet of the said lake, about two or three miles from the lake, in No. 10, in the second range, now called Gorham, at fifty cents per acre. Having retained in store two hundred and fifty dollars worth of his West-India goods at Albany, he turned them out in payment towards the purchase. The next season he went on to commence a clearing of his new and distant uncultivated farm. With many difficulties and inconveniences he effected a small clearing and sowed it with wheat and had a decent crop. Provisions the first season were scarce, being carried in by water and otherwise, till some was raised, and then there was no mill much nearer than the Jemima mills at the Crooked Lake, some forty miles distant. After harvest, the inhabitants there who had secured their crops, clubbed together, and some two or three men went to

the mill with from four to six oxen, as well as they could, there being but poor roads through the woods. But people flocked into that wilderness like birds of the forest. Soon mills and conveniences in life were erected, and soon provisions were plenty. Yet it seemed to be unhealthy; the fever and ague and lake fevers were prevalent, and sometimes there were hardly well ones enough to take care of the sick, as my father has informed me. The natives were scattered through the woods, in wigwams, hunting their prey; yet they seemed generally friendly. The wilds of that region abounded in wild beasts of prey of almost every kind, too tedious to mention. Fowling and fishing were pretty good, which were of great use to help other provisions in a wild so far from inhabitants, then considered almost out of the world by many whose fears of Indians and sickness far distant from home, made the old proverb good—"Fear kills one half and natural affection the other;" yet many, like my father, took their lives in their hand, and the small effects they had, and pressed on to seek an assylum in this new found land, and nearly all prudent and industrious people soon obtained a comfortable living; while men of a speculating and discerning mind soon made themselves rich or independent by the rise of lands or agriculture, who survived till naturalized to the climate; for the soil was fertile and brought forth abundantly. In this new world my father traveled back and forth on foot, and worked at clearing and other business seven seasons—leaving me, though young, in care of the family and farm during the summers, one year excepted, in which he took me with him, intending to move during the following winter. But this was the second season he went on, and for some reason, he said fear of sickness, he gave up moving and came and took me home to take care of the business there, while he went back to work, as we were low in funds and money was scarce. As my father informed me, he suffered hunger, cold, and, at several different times, nearly perished in storms, and sometimes losing his way and getting in swamps, having large streams to cross in the woods, either by fording or finding large trees or drifts of trees to cross on, he was in great jeopardy, it being cold weather. At these times he thought he must perish, and no doubt he would had he not been a man of robust stature and constitution and full of courage. He pressed on through dangers and difficulties

almost insurmountable, and yet survives with me in Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y. in the eighty-third year of his age, and my mother in her eighty-sixth. After raising a family, suffering the hardships of a new country, they still enjoy as good health as can be expected in advanced age; though my father had the misfortune to lose his natural sight twelve years since, which is a great affliction; and my mother has become hard of hearing—yet they have the view of their Redeemer, and seek by faith and hope for a building prepared for them not made with hands, a habitation eternal in the heavens, that fadeth not away, which buoys up the aged and comforts youth.

Once more: I will relate some further sketches of my father's trials and adventures. After his beginning in the wilds of Genesee, it was ascertained, as levelled by Miller Pitts, that there was a site for mills on the outlet nearest of consequence ever could be. Father not being in funds to build alone, was solicited by Gen. Chapen's son Francis, to take a partner, each half, and father to do all he could; and if said Chapen paid more, he was to have a chance to pay as he might be able. All being agreed on, they went to work to build a saw-mill—got the frame for dam and mill by mistake or otherwise, unknown to father. When the foundation of the dam was laid and a few posts set up, father told the chief mill-wright that he had not framed the dam according to agreement—it is eighteen inches too high. He was very angry, and they had a high dispute. When measured and the contract examined, it proved as father said. Mr. Chapen being from home, as agent among the Indians, he stopped all hands till Mr. Chapen's return, and then told him the chief mill-wright had gone contrary to agreement and had stopped raising till he returned, as he feared the fall was not sufficient to admit that height—it would overflow too much land. He seemed miffed and said, it is right—put it up. According to agreement, either party, being dissatisfied, was to give the other the refusal. Accordingly father told him he was ready to sell and the chance was his first, to which he readily agreed.

Capt. Chapen purchased five hundred acres of the land for five hundred and twenty-four pounds. The dam being raised and covered, overflowed a large tract of land up the outlet, and also raised Canandaigua lake some one or two feet. In consequence of which, it destroyed the mill site, and he had to

move it lower down the outlet. My father then purchased two farms in the town of Florida, Montgomery county, on which we resided some years. He being a man of a speculative mind, thought best to erect a grist and saw-mill on one of the farms, having there a site; which, had it proved as anticipated, would have been a decent fortune. But to our great disappointment, after we had erected them, the foundation being blue clay instead of rock, the floods came and destroyed our dam, which occasioned us, as we built in partnership, a loss of some fifteen hundred dollars: this was a great discouragement to me, just beginning the concerns of life. However with a blessing, we surmounted the loss, and by prudence and industry increased in property, and are yet alive.

Here I pause and say, perhaps some may wonder at my giving a short narrative of my father's progress in life; if so, permit me to say, it seemed expedient that I might more clearly discover the dispensations of God to me, as I have been journeying on in life.

I now proceed to give a narrative of my own experience, from memory and observation, hoping it may not be as water spilled upon the ground, that cannot be gathered up, or benefit to the use of by-standers, nor allay the traveler's thirst.—May the blessing of God attend it for comfort and edification.

As I remarked, in the beginning of this narrative, I was born in the town of Johnson, R. I. about six miles from Providence. At the commencement of the revolution, my father removed to Woodstock, Conn. before my remembrance, where I first came to the knowledge of time and things.

As afflictions, perhaps, are as soon realized as any thing of experience, both with the aged and youth, I recollect being sorely afflicted with the phtpisc, that often caused my parents to think of my dissolution and yet spared: at times I was seized violently with the sick head-ache, seemingly more than any youth could bear, which, as tender parents feel, often caused much sympathy, regret and anxiety. I recollect hearing them say, the child cannot live through many more such turns, which, like all children, caused fears of sudden death in my mind. Here I must remark, although it is a common thing for the most tender parents to express their minds before small children on such subjects, if rightly considered, had better be expressed to each other alone, as little ears hear and under-

stand such expressions, and sensibly realize them coming from parents: but this, by observation, is only intended as a caution, to show these representations increase afflictions rather than abate them. I very well remember the anxiety of my dear and most affectionate parents on my account. Every means and all care and pains were no doubt taken by them to preserve life, comfort and ease, and the blessings of God attended in preservation. Permit me, as simple as it may seem to some, to relate a saying I often heard my father and mother mention, of a dream they had a little before my birth, respecting me, that ever seemed fresh in their minds, as though the Lord had some peculiar work for me to perform, and what it was they yet seemed to be pondering in their minds about, waiting to see the Lord's will made manifest. When between four and five years of age, my parents moved to Pomfret, Conn. at which time religious tenets were rigorously used and burdens laid on by the standing orders, more than at the present time. But it seemed the Lord passed through that town, and a number of converts were hopefully, spiritually born into the kingdom of God's grace, which caused great excitement. It happened to be that some joined with the then despised Baptists, with whom my father and mother joined in membership.—Although it may seem singular for me to mention the circumstance, referring to myself, yet I feel it my duty to mention it, not as any thing referring to myself as tribute, being an infant, but to show how the Lord makes a display of his goodness, and through the smallest means. Even babes and sucklings are used to perfect praise, to the astonishment of the wise and great. My father, like most young men in the beginning of the business of life, thought but little of a future state. He came in one morning to breakfast and took me on his lap; and as children are often inquiring of their parents about their business, I said to him, Father, what are you going to do to-day? He said to me, I am going to do such a piece of work to-day if I live. I said to him, and what are you going to do if you don't live? as children often talk to their parents; and the Lord was pleased to cause those words to become an arrow that reached his heart. It was a thought he never before had realized, and it had a tendency to bring him to most serious considerations of death, judgement and eternity. He could not rest, day nor night, till he found peace in believing on a bless-

ed Savior. This occurrence, together with others, had a solemn and a weighty effect upon the mind of my mother, and she was brought to confess and acknowledge the goodness of the blessed Savior, and in a short time they both were baptised by immersion in the Quinebaug river, confessing their sins. As I well recollect, my father carried me in his arms to the water side, in the presence of a large concourse of people, assembled to witness a ceremony which was then of rare occurrence. My parents ever since that time have had a good standing in the Baptist denomination, even to the good old age of eighty-two and eighty-five. May the Lord make their last days their happiest, and at last grant them an abundant entrance into that rest where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.

From thence my father, having sold his farm, moved to Killingly, where we remained one year, and then moved to the city of Newport, in February, before the close of the revolution, where I was put to school and made all the proficiency I could. My father followed the seas. We lived here six years, in which time a reformation took place in Newport and various other places, called by the name of the New Light Religion. As I used to go to meeting often with my parents and friends, serious impressions of the concerns of another world, and fears of death in an unprepared state came frequently upon my mind, though I was but a child. These impressions, however, soon wore off. I went to school till I was about twelve years of age, and then we moved to Saratoga, N. Y. on Kayaderoseras Patent, then called, in the wilderness. Since that time I have been to school but five days. While in Newport I was respected as a child by old and young, as much so, at least, as common. When we arrived at our new habitation in the wilds of New-York, the pleasing scenes of a city and sea shores which were amusing to youth, were banished. The difference of situation, of buildings, from a good house to the one above described, was surely melancholy, as well as the difference with a child, from school to hard work and hard fare and the wilderness to roam in for miles to find our cattle. Another boy and myself, our cows being wonted to go together, would often go miles to find them, without road or path to follow. The reduced circumstances we were in, as I have before related, together with the cares of business usual in life, made it neces-

sary for my father to be gone much of his time, and I was often left for weeks together in care of what business we had, although small at that time, as I was the oldest I had to see to all as far as I could.

At this time I used to be inclined to go to meeting, as a great excitement had taken place, fulfilling the scriptures—"The wilderness and the solitary places rejoiced and blossomed as the rose." Converts were greatly multiplied and old saints were rejoicing with joy unspeakable and full of glory. Being often seriously affected, being deluged in tears and under great concern about my poor sinful soul, I often wept in secret places and often conversed with my parents, and with ministers and members of the church. Some would say to me, I think you must have experienced religion ; but that gave me no satisfaction at all. Though I often thought my greatest desire was to know and experience the love of a blessed Savior, yet my heart seemed hard, and although I liked the company of christians, I was yet sensible that there was a lack in me that others felt not, and my cry was—Lord, bring me to see and feel those heart-cheering evidences that others express. But they were still hid from me, and I felt that even though all my friends had an evidence that I had met with a change it would do me no good, unless I felt that love in my own heart spoken of in scripture. Although I was a stranger to vital and experimental religion, I learned from the bible that it consisted in loving God supremely and our neighbors as ourselves. This love I felt destitute of, as it seemed to me to be a hard thing for any one to be in possession of, for as self-love reigned in all seemingly, so even in professors I thought I could discover it ; and not being willing to deceive myself or to deceive others, I pondered these things in my heart, waiting for light to open to my mind, if it was the Lord's will it might. Before this it had been said in my hearing, and through others, by ministers and deacons and some others who had been acquainted with me, and had observed my sobriety and modesty and deportment, "Waterman must have met with a change of mind or have been sanctified from the womb." Being young it sometimes seemed to prompt me to think that I was, perhaps, almost if not altogether a christian. I have not the least reason to suppose if I had made application but I might have been received as a member of the church ; but I then had this view of a change, that,

if a person met with a change, a light from heaven, or some great noise and some very signal instance of Providence must take place, in view of a true convert, in the things of nature, to give sufficient evidence, as is often the view of those under conviction, forgetting the small, still voice of the Almighty that is spoken of, that whispers peace to the troubled conscience, and says, Peace, be still and know that I am God. After quite a reformation, and a goodly number had united and formed a Baptist church, the excitement ceased, and the enemy came in. Difficulties arose, as is often the case in other places so in the wilderness of Kayaderosseras, now Greenfield, Saratoga county. A sifting time came on after harvest, and some were turned out, others under trials, while it seemed that the love of many had waxed cold. The prospect to my view appeared very different from what it had a short time previous, and I, by observation, could discover but little difference in appearance between professors and other people, and, as others often are, I was looking for perfection, at least in christians, although I have never as yet found it to the present day, but I find that all come short of what unbelievers are looking to see.

My mind seemed to be in consternation, and was puzzled what to think of these things. If religion was of so happy a nature as spoken of by them who professed it, how it was possible that some so soon turned aside, and the gold became dim and the most fine gold changed, was a matter of trial to my mind, and I became careless and more thoughtless and unconcerned, even about things of so eminent importance.

About this time, it being, as near as I can recollect, February 26th, 1790, my father was to move a family on to Genesee, on his land, and he saw fit to take me with him to help make preparation to move on the next winter, leaving mother and my two brothers in Greenfield, to their own care, while we went to prepare a better habitation in the wilds of New-York. We set off with one yoke of oxen and a sled, having on board a family, a man and wife and three children, and four men in company and myself. We had as tedious a journey as any poor souls ever need have, for it was snowing and drifting in such a manner as to render it almost impossible to proceed. On one day, I recollect, we had to unyoke the oxen five times, and shovel out and unload part of the goods to get on the track, leaving the women and children the best way we could, at the nearest house we could find, to prevent their per-

ishing. I was fourteen years of age. My father was a very stout, resolute man, or I do not know but some of us would have perished before we reached the place where Utica now stands. It was then a wilderness stretching on as far as Canandaigua. There were but two old shells of houses, abandoned by their former occupants, on the banks of the Mohawk, where Utica now is. Some families had just begun a settlement along the road, out as far as Westmoreland. We found shelter in a log tavern. My father being acquainted with Captain Olverson, at Whitestown, obtained provisions for the journey, and we proceeded. The road had been cut through only the fall before, and as many of the trees were still lying across it we found it very difficult to get along. We had to fall bass wood trees to browse our cattle on at night, and we also gave them ears of corn which we had brought along to keep a cud for them. Before we arrived in Canandaigua we had to stay in the woods five nights, making a fire and laying down hemlock boughs to sleep on, with the canopy to cover us, only some times put boughs over us. As we proceeded on, the lowlands were bare in many places, while on the highlands the snow was deep, especially in the Onondaga woods for thirty-six miles without a house, thence to Cayuga lake; one night we encamped on the bank of the Owasco outlet, where Auburn now stands, being then only a pole bridge over it, as it was all a wilderness; when we got to the lake the ice was poor, but we ventured over in the morning, the night having been very cold, we crossed by the side of the road on the ice; we could force a cane through the ice, but we got safe over, feeling very thankful for our preservation. That day was warm, and the snow went like dew; the streams rose over the lowlands which made it difficult to proceed, having sometimes to wade to drive the team. We crossed the Seneca outlet at a small ferry and got on to Flint creek, a considerable stream; the ice had just broken up and no bridge over it; here we found some families encamped, and we had to stop two days, till five families got together, which made considerable of a company in encampment. A council was held, and early the third morning all hands turned out and felled a row of trees across the flats for about forty rods. Finding a large hemlock tree on the opposite bank, a raft was made of poles and bushes and two or three men went across and felled it, and it happened to reach across so as not to float away, and other trees were felled from

each side, which enabled us to lead the ladies over on the trees, carrying the children over in our arms; and though their fear caused many screeches and disagreeable sensations, we all got safely over. Our sleds and goods we dragged over by hand. It now remained for us to get our cattle across. The succeeding night was cold, and it froze over the flats so as to bear a man part of the way, and even if the ice broke the water was only from knee to waist deep. The cattle were driven to the stream, and roped across, though in swimming the more rapid part some of them were nearly drowned, they at length reached the opposite shore in safety. We went on to the outlet of Canandaigua lake, which we had to ford. The water being high, the men had to wade on each side of the sled to keep it from floating away. A considerable portion of our goods was wet. On the evening of the 13th of March, 1790, we arrived at our cabin, near the outlet, two miles from where the village is now built. When we arrived there we had nothing but browse to feed our oxen and cow on, and a tedious storm of snow ensued—but by going four miles we obtained a few bundles of rye straw, which was all the fodder we could get. In a few days, however, it grew warm, and the leeks sprung up, and the cattle began to thrive by ranging the woods and going on the openings about three miles distant. As I was the boy amongst them, I often used to go alone after the cattle, and find them, if I could, by their bell, which I was anxious to hear, as pretty much all we had to depend upon for support, bread excepted, and but a short allowance of that, for five men, as my uncle was on there, the family of three children and myself, was the milk and what fish and fowl we could get and what we could procure with the gun. We children used to get more than our equal share of milk by watering it often to make it go round. When I could not find the cows I have often spread salt on my bread, and it then tasted as good as butter often does now. Here we were in a hut fourteen feet square, in the wilderness. Some roads were cut out, and I often had to go off around, sometimes in them and sometimes through the woods some miles to do errands, where bears and deer and wolves were in abundance. Sometimes while roving about I would suddenly come upon a wigwam where the Indians had assembled for hunting. They seemed kind and friendly, and would offer me such as they had to eat; but seeing them cook the guts by just emptying them and stewing

them up, I could not eat with them, but I would sometimes broil a piece of venison and eat it without bread. Here I assure you I underwent hardships. In April, four hundred Indians, of all ages and descriptions, came to Canandaigua, and encamped, to receive presents and pay for land, at which I was somewhat alarmed, being young, not knowing but some mischief might ensue. They were friendly, however, and no injury was done. But a greater alarm was sounded, that a large army of Seneca and Flat Head Indians were coming on to destroy Indians and people, which caused some to leave that place for home. One of our company tried hard to persuade father to take all he had with him and leave, but father's resolution prevented, and the man set off for home, saying he was not a going to be killed by the Indians. His departure I suppose was greatly to his disadvantage, as the alarm was occasioned by an idle rumor having no foundation whatever in truth, and industry and frugality were used to improve, to clear up and cultivate the wilderness with success. The lands being fertile produced an abundance of provisions. My health was preserved till the September following, when running after cattle evening and morning and working during the long days, I was taken down with the fever and ague, and had a hard siege. I thought it would prove fatal, but that and lake fevers prevailed which were not dangerous, though discouraging. After three months I was restored to health. In November my father went home to Greenfield to move on his family as soon as sleighing commenced, leaving me with my uncle in the hut, as the family had built a house one mile distant. We kept bachelor's hall, and cooked for ourselves. Soon after, foddering time came on, when my uncle had to take our cattle, four oxen and one cow, and drive them to Genesee river, where they went in summer to cut hay, and stacked it up to winter the stock on, as many did, it being a natural growth of bent grass which any one could go and cut. I was left alone to do and shirk for myself. Here I staid alone till about the 1st of January, sleeping in the hut, alone, except some traveler or others came in to stay with me. Sometimes the Indians would come and ask me to let them stay over night, at which I was sometimes afraid, but dared not deny them for fear of worse consequences. Oftentimes I was awakened by the screeches and howlings of wolves, most hideous and alarming. At this time there came a heavy snow-storm, and three feet of snow fell, and

I was in my cabin. In the morning I got up and looked out. It seemed horrid. Towards noon, the man that we moved on there came on snow shoes, to see if I was alive, and I was pleased enough ; but we lived on the road from Canandaigua to the only gristmill any where near, just finished down the outlet of the lake, and the people after two or three days broke through to mill. A rain came and crusted the snow, and many deer and wolves were taken by dogs and men on snow shoes, on account of the snow and the crust. As the people passed to mill they called into the hut to warm themselves, and found me in a most pitiful condition, almost destitute of fire ; having no wood prepared I had to burn the fence near the hut, as I could not possibly get any wood elsewhere. They informed the miller of me and my case, telling him I was a lone boy and would perish. Lieutenant Day was the humane man who took his sleigh and horses, and came and took me to his house and made me welcome to the best he had. In return for this kindness I assisted him to tend the mill, as he had to grind day and night ; he tended one half the time and his son and myself the other. It often brings tears into my eyes when I think of this man's kindness to me. Here I staid till March, not hearing of my father, but expecting every day to see the family come. To my surprise, however, my father came on foot, the 1st of March, having given up moving, to take me home to see to the family while he went back there to work that season. I was rejoiced to see him, yet disappointed, as I wished to stay there. When he came I had got very hearty and well, though I was very weak when Mr. Day took me, just recovering from a three months' ague. My father was in poor circumstances to take me home, having only one dollar in cash to bear our expenses two hundred miles ; but he filled a knapsack with provisions, about sixty pounds, and we set out on the 5th of March. The traveling was bad—it thawed fast, and we often had to wade for some distance in low land to get along. All that we had to buy was our lodging, and many would not receive pay for that. When we came to the Seneca outlet my father took me on his back with his pack and carried me over. The water was about thigh deep, running very swiftly, and the bottom was stony. Twice my father stumbled, and like to have fallen, but he did not. In six or seven days we reached home, and found all well, and my mother was much pleased to receive me alive. Soon after my father went back, and left me to see

to the family, to raise bread, &c. For five seasons in succession after that I had to do the same, till father sold out and came home, and soon after he purchased in Florida. In this time, one of the neighbors having a sister in Massachusetts, brought her to live with him, as she was an orphan child. I formed an acquaintance with her, and before I was twenty we were married, and I began to try to provide a livelihood of my own. My wife had about one hundred dollars, which fell to her as a dowery, and this she laid out in furniture and one cow, and we began to try to live, this in Greenfield. I built a comfortable log house joining my father's, by his request, as he depended on me to take care of his family, he being so much from home. Soon after we bought in Florida, and moved there, March 1st, 1797. I moved on a farm of ninety-five acres, and my father on one of fifty-one acres, one mile apart, and we went to work together and had all things common; as respected living all fared alike, but I had nothing I could call my own of landed property. One of my brothers left home at the age of fifteen, to study merchandise in Newport, R. I. with Elder Caleb Green; my youngest brother was out of health after awhile, and I had the care of all the business, if any increase, and no prospect for me no more than my other brothers. Having nothing to depend upon for my family it made me feel disagreeable, for having been married eight years we had now four children. At this time my brother Nathaniel and wife came home on a visit, and he wanted help or part of the property. Father had always said he would not give any of his property off till he had done with it. My brothers had talked about it and spoke to me about it, and I was glad to have them. I told them they must speak to father about it, but they seemed to put it on me. It was a hard job and one which I had been dreading eight years, but I plucked up courage and said to father, I have a family to provide for and have not any thing to depend upon if I should be taken away—I have a mind to leave and try the new country, or attend to setting bones. Father was so much affected that he could scarcely speak. I then informed him that my brothers had mentioned to me that they wanted to have some help. He said to me, all I have is yours, as I consider it. But, said I, I have nothing I can call my own. He replied that he would give me a deed of all he possessed. I told him I would not take it. He said I had been the means of saving and getting or helping to get

it, and he would give it to me and I might allow the other boys what I saw fit, if any thing. I told him I was willing they should have such part as he saw fit. He then said we might talk it over, and as we agreed he would divide his property, and give up business as to care, by our giving him and mother a life lease to secure him and her their support. I informed my brothers of what he had said, and told them to go by themselves and by the next day make up their minds what they would be satisfied with. The next day they came and told me, and we agreed. The property was divided, and each gave equal security. Then I knew what I had to depend upon. I had ninety-five acres of land and stock and farming utensils by assuming all the debts, about one thousand dollars. This debt had accrued in consequence of building the mills, and had our creditors pushed hard for it the property would have been torn to pieces. We had suffered great loss, but as I undertook to settle all the debts, they gave me a chance, and as soon as it was possible, by farming in the summer and trading to the west in the winter, I paid them off. About this time father bargained for a fifty acre lot adjoining, the deed of which I took in my name, and I had that to cope with. It cost me seventeen and a half dollars per acre. I gave brother John a wood lot of what we called ten acres. With a blessing I paid that. I then bought ninety-eight acres joining on the other side of my farm, and paid fifteen dollars per acre, and got through with that all but about one hundred dollars, and calculated to build a new house and got a part of the materials together, when I heard of a farm of two hundred acres in the lower part of the town to sell, that had a good house on it, for fourteen hundred pounds. I went to look at the farm, and bought it, after I had seen the men that held a mortgage against it. I agreed to pay four hundred dollars down, which I hired of a friend and paid. I then left my son Leonard to manage, he being my oldest son, at the age of seventeen years, father and mother with him to keep house, till he married. I moved to my new habitation and drove on business, cultivating my farm and keeping a tavern and a grocery, and butchering, by which means I paid off the debt at last; but in about four years I owed one thousand dollars on the old property I purchased, and bound myself for four thousand five hundred and seventy-five dollars, for three hundred acres of land in Schenectady patent, at auction, when every thing was high. I thought I could soon pay that off; but

in a little time every thing fell, money was scarce, produce very low, semi-annual interest to pay on the debt, buildings to erect and clearing to effect a comfortable situation for my second son. This was a great expense and cost me labor and fatigue, day and night. During the day I followed butchering and selling meat, together with the occupation of my farming in the summer—and for winter business, as trade grew dull to the west, every one who could go went west to trade, I took an eastern course to Boston and Rhode Island, with sleighs and wagons, with butter, cheese and various other articles of trade. The expenses being high I did not clear much. I drove several droves of horses and cattle and some sheep, but my profit was small. I then went by water and carried produce, sometimes small quantities and sometimes large—one winter I passed more than twenty thousand weight of butter through my hands. For nine seasons I have been in this trade, and setting bones whenever called upon, on the road or on the water and elsewhere. So I, by industry and fatigue, have made out to keep up to contracts and to satisfy my creditors, till the present time.

Here I turn back and begin an account of my career in bone setting. At about fourteen years old I began to set bones. The first joint, I recollect, was a playmate's thumb, which I dislocated, by throwing him in a scuffle. As father was a professed bone setter, the boy, being very lame, came to him to set his thumb. My father said to him, you and Waterman have been scuffling and have put it out, now he must set it. So he came to me and I put it in place ; father looked at it and said it was right. I used to go often with father to assist him to set bones, which gave me some idea of the human frame. After I set the boy's thumb, and people came to see father, as he was often from home they would wish me to try to do for them, and I used to advise them to wait father's return, but almost all would have me try to set their bones, which I seldom failed to do. At length it happened to be my lot to be called to see a man with his knee dislocated, which he said he had had all the doctors in town to see ; his leg was straight, his knee stiff, and they could not bend it. I took hold and put it in place and bent it right down, and he immediately arose and walked, and the next day he was at work in his blacksmith

shop. This made a great rumor and vaunt to my science ; the confidence of the people was in me, and I used often to be called upon as being in a country place, sometimes going thirty miles to attend to such things. From a child I was directed to the study of the human system, and without the assistance of man sense, or anatomy, or much reading on anatomy, I have practiced in this science to the advantage of many. My mind was tried for many years about going off through the country, or to some city, and make a business of bone setting. But many difficulties were in the way, a young family, a farm and parents to take care of. I waited till my children all got old enough to take care of themselves and to take charge of my home concerns, being steady and industrious. I made up my mind to go out on that business and do all the good I could to my fellow-creatures in affliction. I went to old Providence to trade, and by the secret impulses of mind and wishes of my relations, advertised myself a bone setter, and calls commenced and increased and I had as much as I wished to do of that business there. I had calls or patients from every direction round about Nantucket, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Rhode Island, Bristol, Warren, and out round Providence, and my great success astonished the people I helped. A Captain Stewart, at Fairhaven, having heard of my performances, sent an address to me to come to Fairhaven, and see his daughter, who had been some years very lame and had tried a number of doctors at Fairhaven without effect. He wrote me the situation of his daughter, and I judged it a suspicious case and wrote him so, and waited an answer, but he being out a boating did not write soon. I thought on the subject, as he wrote me he was poor, and it seemed to trouble my mind so that I could not rest easy nights, till I made up my mind to go and see his daughter. I took my horse and went and found her on crutches and very lame. I examined her case, and found her hip, knee and ankle out of joint. As her father was not at home, I left her to go to New Bedford to stay all night. I had gone but a short distance before I met a man, in the evening. He walked up to me and said, is your name Sweet? I had never seen the man before and asked him how he came to think I was the man he sent for? He told me the Spirit had revealed it to him, and it was so riveted in his mind that I should be at his house that day, that he left his vessel about sixteen miles

down the cape and walked home; he was sure I was the man as soon as he discovered me in the dark, and that made him ask such a question. I went back and staid over night. The next morning I set the girl's joints, and in a few days she began to walk without crutches, and in a short time could walk a mile. The doctors said many things to discourage them from having any thing done, but after they saw the effects they were as still as mice in a cheese. The girl recovered and soon after was married to a smart whaler. This cure made a great rumor throughout the country. In the winter I went to New Bedford and set bones for a number there and in the region round about. The last day of December, 1829, I sailed on to Nantucket, and staid there till the 10th of January, and set bones for thirty-six people. I came back to Providence, setting bones about the country as I passed on. I was called to North Andover, Massachusetts, and set a hip and wrist for a Mr. Spafford, twenty-five miles below Boston. I stopped in Boston a week, at Mr. Joseph Howard's, in Howard street. I advertised in two papers, but had but one call. As my business was in Providence I returned there, and attended to my business and bone setting till the 1st of June, when I returned home. In November, 1829, I advertised and staid ten days in New-York, and had as much as I could do while I staid. I left Providence in March again, had some calls at Fall River and New Bedford. I set bones on the way, and at this place and at Bedford and in the regions round about, I set a number. On the third of April I sailed for the Vineyard and staid there five days and set bones for six people. I left there on the 8th for Nantucket, where I was providentially detained till the 1st of June, 1830. On this island I set bones both times for nearly three hundred people, as those said who copied my memorandum. I had two calls on Cape Cod I went to see, which I set, and business so increased, by advice and my own impulses of mind, I traveled the south of the cape to Province Town and back to Bedford, and set bones for one hundred and forty people in seven weeks there, in Bedford for fourteen, and on my return to Newport on the island, for a number. From thence I returned again to Providence and settled my business and set some bones. I left the last of July for home, by the way of New-York, sent notice to Newburgh and staid one day, went to Albany, my advertisement being out, where

I staid a week, and got home to Florida the 5th of August, 1830. I advertised in Schenectady, got some business there and considerable at home and in the region round about. My house wanting repairs I went right to work, repaired it and built out houses for the convenience and comfort of my family, till about the 15th day of November I left for Albany. I had a drove of horses, and butter, &c. to the amount of about three thousand dollars, for trade to the east. I stopped in Albany about a week and set bones for a number of people. I started on the 23d of November for New-York, and arrived on the 24th, having received a line sent to me by Mr. Samuel S. Brewster at the American Hotel, who had addressed me at my residence in Florida, after I left home, he being acquainted with Mr. James Gould of Albany, for whom I had set a bad ankle, addressed him and he gave me the line. Mr. Brewster had been hurt in August, had a number of doctors at Syracuse where he was hurt, but got no relief; he came to New-York, where he had been under the inspection of Dr. Mott and some others, but their prescriptions did not help him. I called on him and examined his ankle, and found it in a very bad state. By his request I went to work at it and set the joint, so that he left his crutches in the house and attended soon to his business and recreations, for about two weeks, when he considered he could return to Syracuse. The same day, by the request of Captain Samuel Wiswall, I began to prepare his little daughter's remarkable stiff knee. One other notice I had in the city which I examined and did not operate upon. Here unexpectedly I was providentially detained from my eastern route, my property went to commission men. I could not leave my patients as they were not willing, and therefore I concluded to stay a few days and advertised my science, and calls came in so I could not leave, and by the 10th of April some four hundred addresses were offered in the city and out—some from almost every direction as [far west as Onondaga, which kept me very busily employed. I sent for my youngest son, W. Sweet, Jr. and he assisted me seven weeks, after which my son Samuel came and assisted me awhile. Many very remarkable cases offered which I reduced to joint, and the benefits astonished parents and people. Many very remarkable instances of restoration were realized by many on the island of Nantucket, the cape, and through the towns on to Rhode Island,

as my certificates will show, which I shall hereafter insert from fourteen years old to the present day, which benefits have been appreciated by those afflicted at those places above mentioned. For forty-one years I have met with opposition from some doctors, especially at Nantucket, but by benefitting at least so many by my practice I gained the confidence of the people in all places, so that the doctors were not in my way. I have had the satisfaction of operating on patients who had had the stars of America to see them, as they informed me, and have operated upon them to their satisfaction.

I was detained in New-York unexpected to me. I attended to all calls, both rich and poor without exception. While I did the best in my power for the poor gratis, I charged high for the rich, and so according to circumstances. Eleven weeks I improved my time from morning till eleven o'clock at night, on an average, through all weathers, till at last I took a heavy cold. After setting a hard shoulder case, of long standing, for Gen. Hopkins, which he informed me had been set by pulleys and hand by different doctors, yet I found it had never been put in the socket and he wished an operation. I proceeded, assisted by Capt. Wiswall; the case required power, and I took hold with a full intention not to miss, and succeeded in reducing it to joint, by which means I burst a small blood vessel in my breast, and going home, it being very chilly, took cold. The next morning I was seized with ague chills, for which I sweat over night; but the urgencies of my business called me out the next day, so I repeated the sweat three times till from full strength I was reduced to perfect weakness and raised blood and bad matter. Myself as well as others, supposed I should go into a quick consumption: by advise I called on Dr. Chapman, whom I had been attending with a lame ankle, and we went to work and, with the blessing of the Almighty, removed the difficulty in about two weeks. During the time of my confinement and weakness, from ten to forty came in a day to get advice or have bones set: some ladies, with tears in their eyes, saying they were afraid I would die before I set their children's bones. Some light cases I set in my weak state, while I put off others till I recruited my health; after which I set them, and then received patients and addresses from nine o'clock in the morning till twelve, noon, from New-Jersey, Long-Island and Connecticut, all up the river

and on to Onondaga and Geneva, which I attended to in order, according to the best of my abilities.

In the mean time, evil reports were circulated by doctors and others; but as I have had to bear these insinuations for many years, I became careless about them and they do not affect me as they did in the beginning of my practice, as I feel myself independent of acquired knowledge or skill from man, yet wholly dependent on the Higher Power, who has committed this most noble science to my mind, for the benefit of rich and poor, without distinction, whether I am compensated or not, I trust the Giver of all blessings will reward me for the entirely destitute. While I charge a sum according to circumstances, as the Lord has seen fit to bestow, the rich I charge high as I say to them if asked before an operation as well as after. The abundance of proofs—the sufficient references I have, and the benefits appreciated in so singular and most extraordinary cases, in different parts of America, give me an unshaken confidence of my knowledge of the bone system, and prompts me against enenies and false representations; so that as long as I act in conformity to justice, in doing good to all I can, although I do not profess to cure all, I fear not man who at most can only kill the body, but God who is the great preserver of the universe, to protect me in the performance of my duty to God and man, till I am removed to worlds to us unknown, till I may receive the reward of my labours, good or bad. I do not set myself up to oppose others, as a great part of my practice consists of cases abandoned by others; so if I fail in some, it is not to be wondered at, as I only agree to do all in my power, according to the best of my abilities, for health and use of limbs. I consider blistering, setons, issues or cupping very injurious in dislocations, as they often occasion abscesses where there would otherwise be none, as well as destroy joints and nerves, as I have little difficulty in reducing joints, even of long standing, where none of these means have been used.

I now return to describe the conceptions of mind. As I before remarked, when about fourteen years of age I had serious impressions of mind about a future state. Like many other youths, having my mind taken up with youthful vanities and the beginning of the cares of life, and my associates a rude company and some who had imbibed the universal doctrine, my mind was taken with that, it being a pleasing belief and one

that gave room for lenity of action and pursuits. I set myself to work, as I had been taught that the scriptures were a golden rule and the only foundation of salvation, and I must say that I ever had that idea of them myself; I searched them well to try to be established in the doctrines of universal salvation, and sometimes thought I was, but at times some secret impulses of mind seemed to teach me better; still I often contended with people and ministers, and could often, as I thought, get the better of them in argument, which would be pleasing to me and seem to strengthen me in my belief; at other times, when alone, in meditation and in reading the scriptures to try to pick out passages to confirm my opinion, I confess I was often stumbled and afraid to trust in a few passages to support a belief where so much depended in a matter of the greatest moment in this world and that to come. The doctrine of the new birth spoken of by the Savior, the opposition and persecutions against him and his apostles, the final judgement, a day of separation of the righteous and the wicked, the awful threats announced against the finally impenitent, a heart by nature and will opposed to the government of the Supreme Author of all things, used often, by day and by night, to rouse my attention to serious considerations. While fears of the terrors of a law which I was sensible I had often broken, or at least come short of keeping as required, would occasion deep sighs and groans in secret, I still often contended the same points for mastery and in arguments and to conceal a troubled mind, and often in secret I vowed a reform. At this time, among my mates, I used profane language and was given to light conversation, which after awhile I learned was not a becoming or a well accepted practice even amongst the profane, for they discard that in others which they practice themselves. I quit profanity or swearing, but light and airy conversation, a sprout of nature, I could not wholly refrain from. It has been like a thorn in my flesh, a sweet in my mouth often bitter in the belly to the present time. About ten or twelve years I imbibed this and deistical and atheistical views, and tried every place for ease or refuge of this nature, striving to live a moral life and transact business on a fair scale, pay all contracts, and that was as much as those did who professed abundance of sanctity, and perhaps more, as often even some of them came short. I thought if I did as well as I could in this way, I stood as good

a chance as those who professed religion, or better, for it was often some did not as well as they might have done, so like many others lived on the imperfections of others, which is poor feed, being still in darkness, as it respected spiritual things.—After this an excitement took place in Florida of a religious nature; meetings were held often, assemblies large, professors engaged, many awakenings, some professing faith in Christ and rejoicing. This spring I had met with the loss of my mills by a freshet, and it made me rather melancholy, being all my dependence in earthly things. This loss brought me to see more sensibly the fading nature of time and things than ever before realized by me, as I was driving hard to obtain a property. It would often occur to my mind that my misfortune was in consequence of my belief, or that I was striving for worldly goods and neglecting to secure an interest of a more permanent nature, that the floods and storms could not remove, and I even attribute that dispensation to be a means of bringing me to real serious considerations. As I often attended meeting it was discovered by some that I was serious, which I used to try to hide. I used to try to be merry in sorrowful times in my mind, for fear some might observe it, and if I was in company with converts I would try to contend and joke with them in a hectoring way to bother them. So I worked along, stifling convictions, till the 1st of November, 1803, convictions rolled on. My past offences, my misspent time, my refusals of offered mercy in youth, the good counsel of parents and ministers and friends, in not sooner attending to the one thing needful, it sensibly occurred to my mind the solemn prayers of my parents in silent hours of night, especially my mother who was always at home with me, her anxiety often awoke me in petition to the Lord for her unconverted children and the general good of mankind, made me often feel solemn, but now realized sensibly, these, together with a view of all past events in life, caused me to tremble, and the fear of death, judgement and eternity opened to view. I was enlightened, but it was, I feared, for ever too late for me—I had sinned away the day of grace—I was, in my own view, without hope and without God in this world, and must be eternally so in the world to come, sounded in my ears continually. Sometimes this would be in my mind—O, that I had known the things that make for my peace, but it is too late, they are hid from my

eyes—I must lie down in sorrow for ever. In this situation I continued some days—my sleep in a measure departed—my food became loathsome—I could scarcely attend to any business to advantage. I went to meeting, I read the Bible some, but it brought no comfort to me—all read condemnation—no peace to the wicked. I conversed with ministers and people, but no comfort could I find. One evening I went to hear Nicholas Hill, a Methodist minister, preach, as heavily burdened as I could live, seemingly. He began to preach, and his discourse was so directed to my case, that at first I thought some one had told him of it, but on consideration I remembered that I had never let any body know my feelings, only by appearances, and though I had talked some on such subjects I had tried to keep my feelings concealed as much as possible, yet our people discovered me in trouble, and had some fear I would be insane or do myself harm in consequence of the loss I had met with, but that trouble was banished by a greater. What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? In this state, when I was out of doors, I sought for a place to try to pray, but sometimes dared not open my mouth or ask for mercy—at other times I was afraid some one might hear me. On the morning of the 24th of November, 1803, as I well recollect, I arose early, as I had hardly closed my eyes that night, and went out of the door—I looked all round to see if any body was stirring, but saw no one. I made up my mind if I must perish I would perish begging for mercy. I was at first afraid to set off, for fear it would scare my wife, as I left her in bed, but I moved slowly on and heavily towards a piece of woods of thick hemlock bushes, so far as I thought no one would hear me, for I would not have had any one hear me a praying for any thing.

All nature wore a gloom to me—here I sunk on my knees and cried to the Lord to have mercy on me, if possible, a poor sinner, and take away my hard and stony heart, which was as hard as the nether mill-stone, and give me a heart of flesh or tenderness, to grant a pardon of sin if consistent to his holy will; as in a moment I felt relieved of a heavy burden taken from my shoulders—a relief from hardness of heart—I felt as calm in mind as a little child. As I rose from my knees and opened my eyes, the forest seemed to glow with beauty, the lit-

the birds on the boughs began to chirp their notes of praise, as I thought, to God for preservation. All I saw, the fields, vegetation and every thing, seemed to bespeak the praise and the goodness of the Lord. When the sun arose, it seemed to show a new lustre. I went singing and rejoicing, and thought I would take the bible and read till my wife got breakfast—now it appeared like a new book, whereas before it had read condemnation in almost every page—now its promises and the permanencies of its foundations, appeared precious and glorious—my fears were banished, my mind composed. After breakfast I went to my field and all was pleasant—the day passed off with pleasure—I amused myself in contemplations, singing of hymns and songs, making melody in my heart to God. I was not sensibly convinced I had met with a change to my satisfaction till the next evening, when I had been abroad on business, walking along through a piece of woods, this passage came to my mind—By this shall all men know they are my disciples, if they have love one for another, or if they love the brethren. Here I perceived the word and spirit agreed, and the sealing evidence made known, such love to God and love to man made manifest, as many waters can not quench nor the floods drown. When I got home, I expressed my feelings and my willingness to acknowledge to God and my fellow-creatures, all past offences and restorations in scripture terms. In this I received satisfaction—it opened a way for me to set up a family altar in my house. The next morning I felt it my duty to spend the day in visiting my neighbours all round, to tell them what a dear Savior I had found, and to lead them, if possible, to a bleeding Savior as a friend indeed. Some received me kindly—others seemed offended or rather put out: but I talked calmly and they heard. Some seemed to rejoice that a prodigal had returned, while others said, well Waterman, we believe what you say is true; but we do not know any thing about these things, we never knew any such exercises; yet they were elders and deacons and members of churches. This seemed strange to me, as I thought they must be people of experience. I went on showing the goodness and mercy of the Lord, and if I met one on the way and opportunity offered, I had something to say about this blessed Savior. It was my delight to go to meeting, and I was called in different denominations, at suitable times, to exhort and pray in

meetings, where we enjoyed peace and happiness. As the Methodists were the most active in religion, I was solicited to join them; I asked for their discipline, which I received from the hand of Mr. Nicholas Hill. After giving it a reading, I went and carried it home and pointed out to him a variety of points wherein I could not join the class under such a discipline.—We conversed all day on the points, without coming any nearer than when we began, the particulars of which I did not or could not conceive to be consistent. Instead of taking the example of Christ and his apostles, to be buried with him in baptism, they left the candidates to their own mind in two different ways, in which the scriptures were silent; the government of the church despotic, as the members had no great to do with it—closed doors in class meetings, and as I conceived it I could not see into the mode of receiving members on trial, as I consider the work of grace or change of heart, quick and powerful: subjects are in the state of nature or in the state of grace—if they are changed, they become immediate subjects of grace and members of the mystical kingdom of Christ to follow his directions. At this time there was no Baptist church in Florida; but a few members from different churches, who being in a lonely situation, had not assembled together to keep up meetings. They began, however, to feel it a duty to call a meeting, and inquire if it was not expedient to have regular meetings and attend them. They convened, therefore, and agreed to keep up meetings. Soon an article or covenant was drawn up and subscribed to by a number; with these I attended and served as clerk, and was soon baptized. After a while a council was called and a church fellowshipped, by the name of the first church of Florida. We had an Elder Holmes, who preached with us a while, and then we had supplies from other churches.

In some two years, having had serious trials that bore on my mind, I at last, as expected by the brethren, opened my mind to Eld. Elnathan Finch—first of all respecting my trials, and he said he would consult with the brethren, which he did, and they appointed a meeting for me to improve, by way of doctrine, which I attended, and satisfaction was obtained, that I had better improve every convenient opportunity; and as we had no settled minister, I soon had frequent opportunities, till I was called to take the lead in all the meetings. By a vote of the church, I was licensed to go abroad and change with mi-

nisters, which I did after a little while, three years as near as I can recollect.

The subject was called in question with regard to me, whether I ought to be set apart to the ministry—all were satisfied except one brother and his wife, who thought no one ought to preach unless he was educated—it was deferred. The church increased considerably after this—it seemed to be a trial or difficulty that caused a division and coldness—meetings not attended so well. I moved about six miles off—some moved away—some died, and the church dwindled and finally dissolved. This being the case and I rather disheartened, improved whenever I was called on for a time. Being very much engaged in business, being in debt, and having to exert myself to make good my contracts, I concluded to give up public improvement, and as soon as I did my mind was darkened; I took a voyage to Tarsus, till I got down by the cold streams of Babylon and almost on the dark mountains of despair, so that I could not attempt to pray in public or in my family for a long time.

At length one of the neighboring women died and I went to the funeral, not expecting to be called on to make a prayer or any observations. But after we were convened they called on me to make a prayer. I was put to blush and trembled, and to refuse was hard and to attempt was a great trial, but I attempted and had as much liberty as I could expect. It gave me some relief of mind. Soon after I went a journey to Rhode Island. When I arrived there a reformation had commenced, and all were engaged in religion. I went to meeting and sat back in the corner of the room, not meaning to say any thing—but my brother called on me to read a chapter and remark. I tried to be excused, but he urged me forward and I complied with his request, and had a happy meeting. I went to bed that night reflecting upon my misimproved time. I wet my couch with tears of repentance, resolving never to neglect to discharge my duty again, but to declare the gospel to my dying fellow creatures, whether they hear or forbear, wherever a door might open, which I have attended to. When I arrived home I notified a meeting in our school house, where collected a large congregation for the country, and I addressed them from the prophet Isaiah—“Arise and shine, for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.” While I ac-

knowledge my inattention to the duty of preaching, and my backslidings, I found relief of mind and confidence in declaring the gospel. I was called upon by different ministers and different denominations to preach for them, and in different neighborhoods, which I attended often with good congregations and solemn ones. Being invited by Deacon Charles Howe, I visited Duaneburgh and Florida church—I went and preached. As I was then situated, the church to which I had belonged being dissolved and I, as it were, alone, it seemed to be a matter of question with some of the brethren whether it was right for me to preach, unless I joined another church. I told them I did not think I ought to confer with flesh and blood, but if it had hurt any minds I was sorry. They desired me to join with them, which I did. I gave a relation of my experience, and was received and requested to improve by way of doctrine or preaching, as they then had no settled preacher. At this meeting Deacon Howe, who had been a long time under heavy trials about preaching, was called upon to prove his gift more fully. It was voted that he should occupy one half of the time and myself the other, he being 'an established soldier of the cross and faithful steward of his master. Although he sunk, as it were, at first, he gained confidence and strength, being brought up there, and has become a faithful minister of the New Testament. Soon after, a brother Marshall joined the church, and on opening his mind to the church he was called to improvement. Having a supply I used to attend on calls in different places in town and out. In about two years or less it was thought best to call the church to a decision on account of the gifts in the church, and the greater part of the church was satisfied and expected the three would be set apart. But Deacon Shutes and some more seemed to think that as I was a man who had a great deal of worldly business to do and see to, I had not ought to be a minister—and this seemed to influence some more. The question was put to me to ascertain my mind upon the subject. I saw that Deacon Shute was set on his point, and was influential; I told them I had never been in a hurry to be ordained, and submitted it altogether to the church, and Deacon Shute made so many remarks and preambles that a minister ought only to own one acre of land and improve that and not be cumbered with business, and that the council would not ordain a man

who was in such business as I was, keeping an inn, that they concluded to ordain the other two and let me stand. I had held a letter of license to preach wherever the door opened—this seemed, as any one may see, to bring on my mind some trials of parley. It may not be my duty to improve, as some think, but I made up my mind to stem the torrent a little longer, and I have improved in different towns and cities, generally having as large congregations as common to attend. I have had some signs of a blessing attending my feeble endeavors. I thought if one might be awakened through my instrumentality it would recompense me for all my pains; a number have dated their awakening from it as a means, and I feel to leave it with the Lord to do his will in all things; all I have to do is to keep a conscience void of offence towards God and my fellow men. I remained a member of that church till one was fellowshipped in Amsterdam village—as they said their number was small, and no minister but what they hired, they solicited me to come and join with them, which after awhile I did, and improved steadily in the church as much as I could when at home. Soon after I joined, having by subscription about one thousand dollars, it was moved in the conference meeting to begin a meeting house. It seemed to be the minds of the church to go to more expense than I thought our circumstances would admit. I frankly told them my opinion, that we had enough money signed to build a comfortable house, if rightly laid out, and that the church was small and in low circumstances—but they seemed miffed and scattered; some said they could get three thousand dollars signed to build with. I told them I was in debt, and if that was their intention I should not do much towards it, as I feared we should lose the house. They went on and bought a site and dashed away, till all in trouble, they called on me. I took up about one hundred and thirty dollars subscription—I paid ten dollars. I went to New-York, Albany and Schenectady, but got no money at all. I then tried to the east and got none.

Of the gospel of Christ as committed to me in sincerity and truth, I mean the gospel of Christ as he declared in person and by his holy apostles that he is the Mesias which was promised, and has come by promise and appointment, to fulfil the law and answer the demands it had on us as transgressors, and to bring in everlasting righteousness for all that believe on

him as the Creator, Supporter and Redeemer of lost and sinful men, and acknowledge that it pleased the Father that in him all fulness should dwell, and to him all power committed both in heaven and on earth—the only one ordained to give repentance and remission of sins—as Advocate in the capacity of a servant, yet Lord of all—second in office as Son, the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, who has become the propitiation for all, especially for those that believe and continue obedient to the heavenly calling, not according to our own works, but his purpose and grace purposed in him before the world began—observing not to teach for doctrine the commandments of men, if we do we cease to be servants of Christ, but seek for honor to ourselves or for others, which is idolatry, by conferring honor on man which is due to God alone. The gospel is good news to all that hear; but men by nature are deaf and do not hear the joyful sound till their ears are opened—blind to the beauty and excellencies discovered by sight—strangers to the treasures contained, a translation out of darkness into his marvellous light, a knowledge of spiritual things, an evidence of being adopted sons in the family of Christ and children of the Heavenly Kingdom. For these blessings we are dependent on him and him alone, as they cannot be purchased with money, or conquered by power, or communicated from parents to children, or from bishops to friends or adherents, or from masters to servants. It is a free gift to all who are in possession of this inestimable treasure, grace, free grace, and the glory due alone to Jesus Christ, who is Lord to the glory of God the Father—who is the Resurrection and the Life—the Judge of quick and dead—the Giver of mercies—the Rewarder of justice on impenitent offenders. Through him a door of hope is opened which no man can shut, for the chief of sinners. From him a proclamation hath gone out—“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price”—a mediatorial representation of salvation by grace, a freedom for all to come and take of the waters of life freely, showing the willingness of the Savior and freedom of the Lord on his part for all, but on our part, through the effects of the fall, no disposition to receive on so free and amicable terms, but a disposition opposed to his government and a want of desire to obtain a pearl of so great price, in nature no thirsting after God, but rather saying,

I desire not the knowledge of thy ways. Hence saith the scriptures, I have called, but ye have refused, I have stretched out my hand, but ye have disregarded it, therefore I will laugh at your calamity, I will mock when your fear cometh. We say, who is God that we should obey him in this? since we are accounted as strangers and foreigners, dead in trespasses and sins, blind and deaf to our best good, poor and needy, helpless and forlorn, dependent on God altogether for temporal blessings and spiritual life and strength to help in time of need, unconcerned, sporting on the thick bosses of his buckler, and laying blame on God, or saying, I have done all I can do and all will be well; or saying as did the young lawyer, all these things have I kept from my youth up, referring, as many do, to the law, and yet there is a lack, for by the deeds of the law no flesh shall be justified, for by the law is the knowledge of sin—it is a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. Being insensible of our danger we say, a little more sleep, a little more slumber, a little more folding of the hands to sleep—and thus we remain dormant, till the good Spirit of our Lord quickens our minds, excites attention, discloses the danger, breaks up the dark vault of nature, opens to us the necessity of repentance of sins committed and a need of forgiveness. Conviction of crimes committed brings weight of guilt on criminals, and punishment threatened for offences brings terrors of a breach of law. How, says the man, or how, says the woman, shall I escape? What prison or natural death?—no, this is not what so much troubles the mind—but how shall I stand before my Judge in a coming day, or suffer the wrath of my Maker, seeing I have offended him who cannot look on sin with the least allowance? Here the man is brought to a stand, and says, what shall I do?—my case is desperate—I will fly to the law—I will keep that—if so, it requires that which is past—I will read the Bible, it condemns me—I will go to our ministers or deacons and see if they can not grant relief; but this avails nothing to my troubled conscience—I am left alone to mourn my lost condition till all hope is lost and every refuge fail; clothed in shame and sin, in my own view, of sinners the chief, in an unexpected moment the Savior appears and soothes; the Savior calms the fears of him clothed in sin and shame, puts on him the best robe, even his righteousness, a ring on his hand a token of friendship and love, a seal of the New Covenant of grace, not

of works, we exclaim not unto us—not unto us—but to Thy name be the glory—to Thee all honor is due—I read the promises with pleasure and delight—the foundation of God’s word permanent—the gospel precious, like the honey or honey comb—the new-born babe goes on his way rejoicing, desiring the sincere milk of the word that he may grow and thrive—and

“ No tongue can express
The sweet comfort and peace
Of a soul in its earliest love.”

The desire is to follow Christ in his teachings and examples, pinning his faith on no other man, or minister, or doctrines afloat of men, that do not agree therewith, after the cunning craftiness of men who lay in wait to deceive or sap the foundations of the gospel for popularity or filthy lucre’s sake—having real desire to follow the Lamb whither soever he has gone, through evil as well as good report, speed his way on happily and heavenly, being at peace with all as much as possibly in him lies. By these remarks I mean an experience of the new birth, or what our Savior referred to when he said to Nicodemus—Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. The evidence of this is in our hearts—peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, love supreme to God and filial and affectionate to men, enemies or friends, doing to others as we would others should to us. The evidence to others is to be Christ-like in precept and following his example by doing good to all, especially the poor, by being good citizens, kind husbands, or wives, affectionate parents, obedient children, faithful servants, good neighbors, just stewards, noble officers of states or towns, by obeying the higher powers as ordained of God, the Great, the Supreme Lawgiver, willing to be judged by him instead of judging or condemning others, for that he himself alloweth, but esteeming others better than ourselves and in humility and love, for in keeping his commands there is a great reward, and his ordinances are pleasant to every believer, as he left them in word by precept and example, as he saith, if any man will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me, but a stranger he will not follow; his trust is fixed in God and not in himself, yielding himself a living sacrifice to God, saying, take me and do with me as seemeth unto thee good; grant me wisdom to know and do thy

will, enable me to grow in grace and in the knowledge of thy ways, that in thy light I may see light and have a light to my feet and a lamp to my path to guide me into thy testimonies, remembering the name of the Lord is a strong tower into which the righteous flee and are safe—help me not to trust in man or to follow their devices, or teach for doctrines the commandments of men, or to pin my faith on other men's sleeves, which must fail and perish. The scriptures are a plain rule and the only sure guide to look to for the rule of rectitude, or way of escape from death to life, or to cause darkness to flee away and the true light to shine on our dark and benighted mind or conscience, that we may see ourselves as in a glass, and when we see the true state we are in by nature, it abases and humbles us in the dust before him, which is the only means by which we are led to discover the disproportion between us and a righteous and holy God, and the propriety of the rigor of his law in condemning us as the chief of sinners; being already condemned and under the curse of God's law, without God and without Christ in the world, we say within ourselves, whither shall we go, or whither shall we flee for refuge or safety? The law condemns me and my own conscience condemns me, and God cannot look on sin with any allowance—

“How lost is my condition
Till Jesus makes me whole”—
“Till late I heard my Savior say,
Come hither, soul, I am the way.”

Here faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. As foolish and vain as it may seem to others, to the soul thus affected it is wisdom and power and love and peace—not the wisdom of this world that comes to nought, but true wisdom and that of God in a mystery. The soul is made to say, good news, but unexpected—it scarcely can be true. It is, says the man, a wonder of wonders!

“Why was I made to hear thy voice,
And enter while there's room,
While thousands make a wretched choice,
And rather starve than come?”

The man looks round and says, what have I done to obtain this?—have my good works obtained it? No—I have not merited it—I have not purchased it with money, or by giving my goods to the poor—nor have I fallen an heir to it by pa-

rent, or ministers, or angels. Whence then have I received it? I must think it is like the wind—it bloweth where it listeth—I cannot tell whence it cometh or whither it goeth—so is every one that is born of the Spirit. I feel the Spirit of God to bear witness that I am born of God, by free and sovereign grace, abounding to me through Jesus Christ, to the chief of sinners; the heart is prepared to exclaim—Not unto us, not unto us, but unto Thy name be all the glory and praise, now and ever. Amen.

I consider such a subject translated out of the Kingdom of Darkness into the Kingdom of God's dear Son, under new laws, directed by the Spirit, acting from different motives, obeying the orders of his new King out of love and not by constraint, remembering the Lord loves the cheerful giver and parents love willing and obedient children. If we love our new King, he tells us to keep his commandments, as he makes no harsh or abstruse laws, as earthly kings often do—nor does he lead his subjects where he himself would not go, but only where he himself has been. He does not say, go before me—but, follow on after—himself marking out the path—leaving his own footsteps distinct and plain, that we may not mistake, if by consideration and examination of his law, we hear his voice and follow on to know the Lord, that his going forth may be prepared as the morning, beautiful and glorious—as new-born babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that we may grow and thrive thereby. Nor did his holy apostles direct any one to follow them any farther than they followed Christ. I am conscious that this is humiliating both to nature and to many of the subjects of this spiritual kingdom, in this day as it was with his brethren, when on earth. Inquiring who shall be the greatest seems to be very common at the present day—striving for mastery or power, or forming new codes of laws, or saying that something else is better, or, we may change the directions or orders of the King, or attend to his ordinances as may best please our own mind—it is no matter to be particular about it, our way is the best—one way is as good as another—if we are conscientious and answer our own minds and please our ministers we shall do well enough—it will not be asked whether we have attended to his ordinances as directed by him, or in our own way. If our King was like some earthly kings, purblind, or hard of hearing, dull of understanding, careless about

his subjects whether they obey him or not, but leave them to follow their own devices and change their ordinances, it might be well enough. But not so with the King of Zion—his eye surveying at one glance every subject that composes his Kingdom—he searches all hearts—he knows whether men obey his law, or attend to his ordinances, or disobey and change them to suit their own fancy, or their priests, or friends, or to run round the cross instead of taking it up—whether we teach for doctrine the commandments of men, or the doctrines he left on record, or attend to his own examples, or the devices of cunning and crafty men, who lay in wait to deceive or lead unstable minds off from the simplicity of the truth. In ancient times, under the law, God complained of Israel, and said, is it nothing that you should change my ordinances and disannul my commandments? Much more, under the gospel dispensation, must we expect to be called to an account for not taking heed to the things we have heard—if we let them slip, or say by words or practice, it is no matter, who is God that we should obey him?—or say, we will walk in our own way and in the light of our own eyes and all will be well, while the Savior says, I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. If we strictly examine the Bible, we find in the parable of the builders, that one is compared to a man who built on a rock, in reference to Jesus Christ, as being a sure foundation, and wise men build on him by repentance and evangelical faith, an acknowledgement by practising his examples as laid down in the word of God, they stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made them free. But only to profess to believe that Jesus Christ is ever so great a man and not the promised Messiah, Jehovah, God with us, is a man that builds on the sand, because they sap the foundation of salvation and nothing to build upon permanent or sure. In the day of trouble they must, if the Bible is true, fall and come short of being saved by the blood of Christ that cleanses from all sin, as the only means of grace by which we can possibly be saved from the wrath to come and be brought to eternal felicity.

The last day of May, 1831, I left New-York for home. I called at Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Hudson and other places, and set some bones, and in Albany and Schenectady and on home. Soon after, I went to Saratoga Springs, and advertised to be there part of the time through the summer. I visited

cities and villages, Schenectady, Albany and Troy, Lansingburgh and Waterford and on the west side of the River to Schuylerville—on the east side from Sand Lake to Union Village and Cambridge, Greenfield, Milton, Galway, Providence, Ballston, Charlton, Glenville and to Florida, Duanesburgh and Middleburgh, I had constant business, except two visits in the time to New-York and New Jersey and Long Island, till I left in October for the South—reduced joints for many of the afflicted, besides some boarders at my house to be attended.

On the 11th of October, 1831, I left my residence in Florida, accompanied by my youngest son, Waterman Sweet, Jr. for a tour to New-York city. We visited Schenectady and Albany and attended several cases. Being specially called up the river, we proceeded above Waterford and attended the cases and returned and took the steamboat and called at Hudson and Athens and Catskill—examined several cases and performed several operations—passed down to Poughkeepsie a short time and passed on. When we arrived in New-York we found patients waiting, and had constant employ some time. We then went over to New Jersey, and passed on to Cranberry Point, through New-Brunswick, examining and operating several days, when we returned, having calls in Connecticut and Massachusetts—went to Norwalk and set some bones and examined some cases—proceeded on to Danbury, and finding no speedy conveyance took stage and boat and returned to New-York. I returned up the river to Hudson by steam, crossed by stage over to Egremont and operated on six cases, then took stage for Providence via Hartford, where I again met my son, who went east by steam-boat. We remained there some days and attended to business. From thence we passed to Fall River and New Bedford, where we performed a number of operations. On the morning of the 25th of November, 1831, we sailed for Nantucket—arrived in a little over five hours, and attended nine cases. Here we were detained by wind and weather, till the 3d of December. We made one attempt to put out from land in the mail packet, but were driven back by a snow squall. We landed at Hiannis. Not being able by any means to obtain a conveyance, we traveled all the way to New Bedford in that extreme cold weather. When we arrived there we had a number of cases waiting, which we at-

tended, and then took stage back to Fall River, where we had to stop and attend several operations. We then went to Providence. Having received a special address from a gentleman in New-York to return with all speed to his assistance, we went on board the Benjamin Franklin to obtain a passage, when the captain informed me he had just dispatched a messenger for me to go on with him to set his grand-daughter's shoulder, and I must not deny him—he would take us on and return us, passage free. Accordingly in a few hours we set off. The next day we arrived in New-York, where we had left much to do. Business was good there, and we did not return to Rhode Island. We were also in different towns in New Jersey, such as Newark, Patterson, and near Hackensack, Orange, Elizabethtown, Amboy, Piscataway, Plainfield, Union or West Farms, &c. About the 1st of January, 1832, having some addresses from Philadelphia, we went down to Trenton, where I received a line from friend Joseph Hendrickson, which had been sent to New-York after we left and was sent on after us, and handed me by a gentleman in Trenton. We went to Crosswick, and found that his daughter, an interesting young lady, had been some four years on crutches. I reduced her ankle, and she left her crutches and recovered. I likewise performed several other operations, and then took stage to Philadelphia, and having examined a number of cases there, by the request of friend Isaac Collins, went up to Burlington to see his sister, Mrs. Jerlet, set her ankle and she recovered her health and strength considerably, and was able to take more exercise, but being delicate and timid about using it, she did not receive as much benefit as some others. In that place I operated on eight cases and returned to Philadelphia. Being about to leave for New-York, by means of a line from Mr. Hendrickson, Mr. A. C. Logan called on me, wishing me to see his lady who had been almost three years a cripple. After examination I found it a severe case—she had but little use of her limbs after the accident, it being so remarkably tender to the touch that she could not bear it down on the floor, but supported it on a settee or chair. I gave them my opinion of her case, and they desired my aid. I prepared for operation and reduced the joints, and she found relief and bore a little weight on her foot and walked a little by a little help. She began to amend, and when I again saw her

in June following, she was able to oversee her house concerns from the cellar to the garret, and could walk so well as not to be discovered to limp, to the great joy of herself and family and friends in all that region. I then returned to New-York and attended to business there, till past the 20th of February, when I was called to Wilmington, in Delaware state, by the agency of friend Isaac Course of this city and friend Starr of that place, to wait on a friend, William Marshall, who had been hurt by the falling of a heavy oak plank on his ankle or foot. We went down, and fortunately for him, having been some four months growing worse, I discovered symptoms of mortification. We immediately went to work, used every exertion and a blessing attended, and he recovered from his sticks. My intentions were, when I had attended this case and a few others mentioned in the address, to return to New-York; but we had so many calls in the town, and from every direction round about, I staid two weeks and operated on some one hundred cases, and was just ready to step into the stage to attend several calls at Newcastle and pass on to Philadelphia, having special calls from there, when a Miss Needles from Baltimore, arrived, having been afflicted several years—I was called on. I stopped and reduced her joints, to the great satisfaction of herself and friends. In consequence of this delay, we had, at a late hour of night, to hire a private conveyance to Newcastle, where we operated on several extraordinary cases before the Philadelphia boat came; then we left and came to Philadelphia, and found a number of addresses left at Mr. H. Wade's Hotel, and several waiting from Baltimore. We had full business, and calls came in faster than we could attend to them. I received by one who came from Baltimore, a letter requesting me not to fail to visit Baltimore, as there were many desirous of my services; and would pay me well if I would come down, which I answered in the negative, as I had more to do in Philadelphia than we could accomplish, and I was anxious also to return home—so I received more anxious letters. In some ten days I had waited on nearly one hundred patients, and answered their letters that I would come for a few days. I advertised our leaving and went down and found so many afflicted people there, that I could not with any propriety leave till some seven weeks, being extremely drove, in which time I was called out in different directions by the

planters. I was called upon to visit the lady of Mr. William Hall. She had not walked for seven years. I attended to her case and helped her to walk. We relieved many who had been sorely afflicted for years, and often we were crowded with at least forty applicants in the forenoon during our stay.—Being desirous of seeing the capital and its inmates, we stepped into the stage and went to Washington, for a short excursion of pleasure. We arrived there Saturday evening, and having a desire to see Alexandria, we took the morning boat down and went to church—saw the situation of the place, and walked a small distance into Virginia and returned to Washington that evening. Monday morning my advertisement came out, and I had five cases. At an early hour on Wednesday we returned to Baltimore, and found that they had been overrun with applicants at Mr. Barnum's City Hotel, where we boarded—they were out of patience with the uproar and questions of applicants, and gave me a reprimand for being away, and said I must take an office in a basement room if I continued there, to which we conceded and it gave some relief to the bar. The people flocked in from every direction, so that we had to advertise, first, to leave, if consistent, at such a time, and then certain. Having calls at York and Columbia, (Penn.) and other places on the way, as we understood, we took the stage, and having traveled upwards of twenty miles, found we were on the wrong course to meet certain engagements. We made every effort to hire some one to take us across to Bell-air, where we had to meet several people at 12 o'clock. The road being bad—a bye-road across the plantations—we had to shoulder our trunks and a velisse, and go on over hills and vales, woods and foot-paths, trying at every place to hire a passage, but we could find none. At length night came on. We hired a negro to pilot us and carry a part of the baggage four miles to an inn, where they said we might hire a passage. We arrived there just as the landlord locked his door for bed. We knocked, and he let us in, but seemed surprised to see us lug in our baggage and without a carriage. I informed him of the reason and said I hoped we might hire him to take us on in the morning, but the poor man had neither horse nor wagon,—he only kept a small tavern to support himself and old lady. We were much beat out, but had got on a plain road—we went on to the next inn in good hope, but when we

came there we found that the inn-keeper had hired his horse and wagon out. We took breakfast, and he said there was a river to ford, as the bridge was broke down. Just as we were ready to go there came a heavy team along, and we put our baggage on, and the teamster took us over to the next tavern, where we hired the landlord to carry us on, if his wagon did not break down, which I feared it would. But we arrived safe, and found quite a number waiting, whom we attended. Next day, finding no other conveyance, we took the stage back to Baltimore, and having had some requests at Frederick City, took the rail road there and set some bones—then the stage to York, (Penn.) set some bones—passed on to Columbia, set bones for nine subjects—continued on by Lancaster to Philadelphia, where we remained till the last day of June, 1832. We took the steam-boat and arrived in New-York, where I had full employ—was called out on the Island and set a hip—went to Flushing to examine a case I had attended in Philadelphia—besides the city business—was called to Mount Pleasant, near Morristown, N. J. to reduce a lady's hip. On the 5th of July, was the great alarm of cholera, causing the flight of the citizens in great numbers. I took the 5 o'clock boat, Ohio, up the river. When opposite the State Prison, the boiler burst. Three men were scalded, and two leaping overboard, were drowned. Most distressing seemed the groans, and shrieks, and cries of those poor souls, saying,—“What shall we do!” “Where are we going to!” conscious that death was unavoidable. It could but move the hardest heart—it was the most solemn scene I ever witnessed—no relief to be administered, I could but stand still and be astonished at the mercy and salvation of the Lord that so few among so great a crowd were injured—and I asked myself, why was I spared as a monument of God's mercy, as I had passed but a few minutes previous by the place which proved the gate of death to others. As instantaneous as the discharge of a cannon, it caused great consternation and uproar, fearing we should next go to the bottom. By the friendly and courteous management of the captain and gentlemen on board all were calmed, and soon a boat came up and took off all who wished to leave. I had agreed to call at Cold Springs, with Mr. Kimball, to examine his two daughters, whom I had attended in New-York

before I went south—he being on board took me to his brother's house, where his lady and children were. I considered them doing as well as I could expect. The next day I came up the river and on home,—having been absent nearly nine months, traveling through and about eight states and into the ninth, in attention to the science of bone-setting—performed some twelve hundred operations—about eight hundred south of New-York, as per memorandum. I returned home, found my family well, and assisted my sons in harvest—attending some cases about home, and made a visit to Greenfield to see our friends—operated on seven cases. I had some come from a distance to my house, whose joints I reduced. On the 2d of October, 1832, having business in Providence, R. I. having more horses than we needed to use on the farms, I started with four and sold three of them—I set bones in Albany for several and also in Newport. One lady in Providence, in particular, had badly dislocated her ankle and could not put it to the floor for six days. She sent for me. I told her that her ankle was badly out—the doctor had said it was not out but only sprained. I set the joint, and she walked immediately. After my return I set some bones, and after a short time I took a tour to Albany, Troy, and so on to Ballston Spa, to examine and set bones for a number—on the way received addresses from New-York and Connecticut. At Ballston Spa I reduced for Dr. St. John's lady, September 11, 1832, a broken limb of five years standing, hip, knee and ankle, which I consider doing well for the time and, without further accident, likely to recover in time from the use of canes, if so, it will be one of the most extraordinary cases I ever attended, on the account of the time standing and the bones not united. In this last year's experience I have only noticed a few of the most particular cases by name, to give a just idea of my operations. I have received a number of very permanent certificates from the first class of gentlemen and ladies, whose names I have not mentioned, some of which may be inserted in this publication.

On the 1st of December, 1832, by a line from Easton, N. Y. I left home and proceeded there, and reduced a lady's hip seventy-five years old; then came back to Lansingburgh and set some bones—continued on to Albany, and Hudson, and New-York, and reduced some bones, and soon went to attend calls at Saugatuck, (Conn.)—attended thirty cases and returned to

New-York, had full business there, till I had to return to Connecticut again. I began at Stamford, and passed to New-Haven—stopt at the villages, and having an anxious call at Danbury, went out and attended some thirty cases there, and returned to New-York in twelve days, having reduced joints in that town for seventy patients. I operated on some more there till I had a call back to New Haven, and in six days I performed fifty operations in that city, of from one to twenty years standing, and three on the passage back. I stopt in New-York a few days, then went south through the cities to Washington, in attention to bone-setting—arrived the 2d of March, 1833, and on the 4th saw the inauguration of the President—came back to Baltimore and reduced joints for several there, and some in Wilmington, Delaware. I passed on to Philadelphia and attended some one hundred cases. Being called to New Hope, I proceeded on and set a gentleman's hip at More's Town, and found the case at New Hope not practicable without relaxing—reduced a hip and ankle for another man, and came to Trenton and set bones for several there—returned to New-York and found many waiting for help—waited on several, and passed on by steam-boat to Providence, R. I.—staid a few days and operated on fourteen cases—called down to Warwick and set a bad broken leg for Mr. Gardner's son, in Cranston a hip and ankle for Deacon Potter—then took the stage for Hartford and New Haven, where I examined many cases of last winter's operations with much satisfaction to myself and those on whom I had waited—came by steam-boat to New-York and attended a few cases, and then returned home by calling at Catskill, went out over the mountain to Windham, by address, and set a lady's hip, by order of Mr. Aursburn, she being his sister, and reduced joints for three more gentlemen there. In that place I received very uncouth and ungentlemanly treatment from Dr. Camp, whom I permitted to be present at the operations. I returned to Hudson and examined the hip of a daughter of Mr. Macy, gave her means to relax the muscles, and came home,—ten days after I went to Schenectady and set a hip for Mr. Nelson Servoss, passed on to Hudson and reduced the lady's hip, set bones for three others there, went back to Albany and set an ankle for a man at the City Hotel, and then returned home. In my tour of five months I received a number of certificates of extraor-

dinary cases from the first class of population, and was much pleased to find so general satisfaction and so much gratitude expressed by my employers, south and east. Soon after, being called to New-York as a witness, on account of a lad's having been run over by a carriage, and being called specially to Lansingburgh, I left home, and called there and reduced joints for eight patients there and one in Troy—stopt at Hudson and examined those I had recently operated on, and found them improving fast—went down to New-York and found a number waiting, performed several operations—went to New Haven and looked over my patients there, and found them gratified beyond measure—came along shore to Norwalk, and found them well satisfied—returned to New-York, attended to a number more—came up to Poughkeepsie and Hudson, and on home, and found a number had been to see me and had left word for me to come over Catskill mountain to attend a number of cases. My son and I took a horse and wagon and went to Schoharie, and attended on a shoulder case for Mr. Defraite, and up the creek to Lexington, and Windham. A Mr. Gardner, at Catskill, sent for me there. I went and reduced his hip and ankle, and joints for two other gentlemen, and returned to Windham, and on home by Durham, having reduced joints for nineteen in six days. After I returned home, having advertised in New York to visit the Springs, I passed through Schenectady, Albany, Troy, Lansingburgh and Waterford, to examine cases and reduce joints. Having calls from Philadelphia, I made a short stay and returned home by Glenville to attend a gentleman from Schoharie, by engagement. I purposed to leave the first of July for the south, by New-York to Philadelphia, on express.

July 1st, 1833, I left home, on calls at Philadelphia and Connecticut, stopt at Schenectady and examined some cases, and also at Albany—was called to New Scotland, ten miles from the latter place, and set bones for three people, and three miles out on the road south by the mills, for two—then passed on to Hudson, and set bones for some—crossed over to Athens, and set two cases—then to Catskill, and attended to fifteen cases, and examined those I before attended—passed on to New-York, and found as many waiting as I could attend in two days—then I went to Connecticut, and examined Mr. John Waterbury's son, and set a man's hip—returned to New-

York, and found a number more very anxious cases, and remained a few days in full business—went on to Elizabethtown, and set bones for some—then on to Rahway, and examined some—then on to New-Brunswick and Trenton to Philadelphia, and attended some twenty cases—returned to Bordentown and Crosswick, and looked over some cases—then back to Trenton, and found that Mr. Anthony Taylor had left a request for me to call and see his daughter, near Bristol, (Penn.) an interesting young lady who had been lame twenty years. I reduced her hip and ankle, and she was relieved, as she informed me at Trenton. A few days after I came on near Princeton, at the turnpike gate, and set bones for several, and passed on to New-Brunswick and New-York, and had full business about a week—then I left for Catskill, where I looked over a number of cases, and passed on to Athens and went up to the gate towards Coxsackie, and set a man's hip and ankle to his joy and surprise. I crossed over to Hudson and set bones for three ladies, two of whom were from South Carolina, the other from New-York. There I met my son, Waterman Sweet, Jr. We took stage, and went out to Lenox; (Mass.) by special request of Captain Joseph Palmer, to see his lady and daughter, who had been thrown out of a one horse wagon. I set a number of bones for both of them, relieved his lady immediately, and his daughter some—I set her bones, but her elbow being much contracted, could not immediately bring her hand to her shoulder, and I left medicine to relax. We set bones for five others at his house. By his request, I, in company with himself and lady, went down to Lee, where I operated on seven more the next day, and returned home with them at 7 o'clock, and found an anxious letter for me not to fail to come over Becket mountain, fourteen miles, to see a lady, who had been lame some twenty years. I agreed with Mr. Palmer to send me there that night. At eight o'clock we set off. A heavy shower came up and it became so dark that the driver had to walk and lead the horse, till we came to an inn, where we staid till the moon rose, then proceeded on, arrived there at 3 o'clock in the morning, and reduced the lady's hip and ankle, took breakfast, and returned to Lee and set bones for four more there—went to Old Stockbridge, and took stage to Albany, where I arrived that evening. The next morning I took the boat back to Hudson, and set

an ankle for a daughter of Mr. Weed, for whose lady from South Carolina I reduced a shoulder which had been put out on a visit to Oak Orchard. I also set a shoulder for a Mr. Porter, put out by the unexpected discharge of a rocket on independence. That evening I left for Catskill, and looked over some cases, and went out to Lexington, thirty-three miles west, and reduced a hip, knee and ankle for a lad—returned to the above mentioned places—left Hudson for Coxsackie and set some joints, and on to Albany and set some, in town and out of town—then left for home, and found several there waiting my return, one from one hundred and eighty miles distance—I attended them, and then went to the Springs, and visited Mrs. St. John, at Ballston Spa, and found her considerably improved, likewise a child whose shoulder I had reduced at Saratoga, perfectly restored—went to Greenfield and reduced joints for four there, and being unwell I returned home, and had several more come to my house for attendance whom I have now to visit, and in a few days I purpose leaving home for the Eastern States, to attend on special calls in the line of my profession, at different places, to the eastern shores of Massachusetts, by Lenox and Northampton, and back by Hartford, if permitted.

Having arranged my narrative, I intend to put it to press, together with certificates of a few of the most extraordinary cases, which I have received from the first class of people in different states and cities of America, who have been benefitted by me. These certificates are sufficient to give a general idea of the benefits of my operations, but should any one desire more reference, I think I have some two hundred certificates, and doubt not of thousands of living evidences, who have received benefits, whom I have seen in their afflicted conditions of almost every description the human frame may be invested by broken bones and dislocated joints, and rheumatism, &c. &c.

I subscribe myself, an Obedient Servant to a Generous Public.

WATERMAN SWEET.

September, 1, 1833.

TO THE PUBLIC.

After a long and laborious and extensive practice in the science of bone-setting, of upwards of forty years experience, in which time a great variety of almost every description of cases has been under my inspection, I feel in duty bound to remark, that I have been studying night and day to find out the use, propriety, consistencies of a practice used by most physicians, and even those who are raised to the highest state of eminence, after whose administrations and operations I have been called on to examine and operate, has given me such disagreeable sensations, seeing the patients' nerves injured, or contracted by means of leeches, setons, and issues, which I often find burnt about joints, or so near them as to be very injurious, or almost spoil some joints or main ligaments, injuring them in such a manner as to render it very difficult in many cases to reduce them to joint—I must say, in all my practice I have never found any good resulting from them, but on the contrary, injury—I feel in duty bound to ask the use or propriety of them, and I must say, that when I find cases that have not been handled in these ways, I find but little difficulty in reducing to what I do where those applications have been used. I have labored under so much difficulty of mind, day and night, inquiring what was my duty, yet feeling a delicacy on account that it is not my wish to injure the most tender feeling of any physician, or surgeon, or any other fellow creature—but, feeling it my duty to obey God rather than man, I adduce this to public view, for consideration—that the public may look back and see if they have ever known any good resulting from the above mentioned means. If so, any doctor, or other person who has set a bone, or restored a joint, or had one restored that was dislocated, will be entitled to the thanks and the humble acknowledgements of a friend to all the afflicted. And this is not all that affects my mind in this case. The pain—the torture—the anxiety of people under these administrations is extreme and heart-rending, especially to parents, while their

children are experiencing such pain, and so much attendance and no good consequences resulting from the whole, as I am daily informed, and almost hourly, by people and parents of children. While I am penning these few lines to adduce to public view, I am prompted to think that those who may peruse them will see some propriety in my penning a few thoughts on a subject that has been in my mind night and day for years, as a duty to disclose, to answer a conscience void of offence to my Maker and my fellow-men, from sympathy and affection.

I subscribe myself, the most Obedient Servant to the
Public.

WATERMAN SWEET.

Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y. Sept. 1, 1833.

CERTIFICATES.

DR. SWEET--THE BONE SETTER.

WE have already spoken of the extraordinary performances of this man, and we continue to hear, almost daily, of new cases in which he has succeeded in effecting cures—or affording essential aid. Many individuals who have been relieved by him, express the highest satisfaction and gratitude for his services. We annex the following communication from CAPTAIN WISWALL, a respectable and well-known citizen, and one of the harbour-masters of this port, (New-York.) Certificates of a like character, from other individuals in this city have been voluntarily handed to us for publication.

COMMUNICATION.

To Parents having children suffering with dislocated limbs, King's Evil, Scrofula, Rheumatism, and White Swellings, of long or short duration, —A plain matter of fact.

I have a child nine years old, who had a fall about five years since, which disabled her much, and the faculty, whom I consulted, could not do any thing for her. Since that period she has walked on crutches.

Hearing of Mr. Waterman Sweet, I put my child under his direction about eleven weeks since. She had her shoulder and hip out, her knee drawn to a square with contracted cords, and her health was very feeble. After ten days application he was able, and did set her shoulder and hip, in the presence of three witnesses, in less than five minutes time without apparent pain to the child—in fact it was like a magic. I could hardly realize it, as I expected the operation would have been very severe. Her health has continued to improve and by the application of his oils to her knee, for eight weeks, her limb is made straight, and she is enabled to walk without crutches. This case is the more remarkable as the palm bone was displaced, and the leg withered and cold. Since her limb has been straight it has become healthy, and is filling up and regaining its natural feeling. Although my child limps some, I flatter myself she will continue to improve; and I feel satisfied with what has been done, and take much pleasure in laying the case before the public—humanity prompts me to do so.

I have accompanied Bone Setter Sweet on many of his visits, and have been present and assisted him in placing seven hips and five shoulders, and several feet, hands and fingers, some of which were done in my house to poor persons gratuitously. At my instance, in the presence of some of my family, he set a wrist for a lady eighty-two years of age. Any unbelievers may call at my house, 42 Hamilton-street, between 11 and 1 o'clock.

SAMUEL WISWALL.

New-York, February 24, 1831.

Philadelphia, 3rd Month 23d, 1832.

WATERMAN SWEET—

Respected Friend—The operation performed by thee on my son Thomas, about a year ago, having succeeded far beyond any thing I had expected or hoped for, it gives me great pleasure to state the facts of the case for the information of others.

In the year 1823, (being then about eight years old) his knee became very much diseased, and his thigh and leg exceedingly inflamed and swelled, resulting in ulceration. He was confined to his bed about twenty-one months, during which time, and afterwards, many pieces of bone from his knee and leg to near the ankle were thrown off—(one I think I may safely say, between two and three inches long)—the knee became very much enlarged and the joint destroyed, the thigh bone drawn out of the socket at the hip, and the main tendon of the leg so contracted that the foot was drawn violently down and very much twisted. The limb gradually healed—when able to go about, he went for a while on crutches, and afterwards was able to go with one crutch and a cane, and so continued; but it was with very painful feelings I observed his hip joint continually getting more out of place—the limb pushed more and more up, presented to my view the melancholy prospect of perfect decrepitude. Under these circumstances, I was induced to send for thee, with, I acknowledge, hardly a hope of his being benefitted: to my great surprise, however, not only has his hip joint been restored, but his foot so altered in shape as not to look like the same, and the joints of the ankle, instep and toes so adjusted, that from being stiff as a stick, they have now their natural play.

Several of our doctors have examined him and have candidly acknowledged that it was a case in which any of the faculty would at once have pronounced a cure impossible by any art of theirs. One of them, whom I think stands as high for skill as any surgeon in this city, and who had attended him when confined about nine years ago and since, seemed very much gratified and observed, that this was one of those very striking facts, which it was useless either to deny or contest.

Having, as a parent, naturally anxious for the welfare of his child, long suffered on account of my poor afflicted son, far beyond what I can express, I feel very desirous that others similarly circumstanced may have an opportunity of trying the same means of relief, and would strongly recommend them so to do, being fully persuaded that where thou dost not believe thou canst relieve—thou wilt candidly say so, as was the case with regard to my son's knee joint, which thou at once pronounced to be beyond remedy.

I may add, that at the time thou performed the operation on my son, at the request of a young woman, who for eight months had been utterly unable to walk, being merely able to move about the house on crutches, in great pain, I sent thee to her. The same day thou adjusted the joints of her knee and hip, so as to enable her to walk at once, and she now walks as perfectly as any of us.

Hoping thou mayest be instrumental in relieving many more of the afflicted, I remain, with much esteem, thy assured friend.

OTHNIEL ALSOP.

This is to certify, that I had my hip bone put out of place sixteen years ago, and on the 11th of April, 1832, had it put in place by Waterman Sweet, since which time I feel myself considerably benefitted.

HOWARD IRESBURY.

Baltimore, May 11, 1832.

State of New-York, Montgomery co. and township of Florida, to wit :
 To all persons to whom it may concern,—I do hereby certify, that Doct.
 Waterman Sweet has been a resident of the town of Florida for thirty
 years or more, and that he has practised bone setting, more or less, ever
 since he first came into the town, and that people generally are well satis-
 fied with his practice ; and further, I have been eye witness to a number
 of his operations, which were attended with entire success, and as respects
 his moral and religious character, it is untarnished even by the tongue of
 the slanderer. Given under my hand at Florida, this 25th day of May,
 1829, JOHN G. SWEET, M. D.

Providence, Oct. 20, 1829.

My Dear Sir—I send you the following as a testimony of my belief in
 your skill in bone setting, in the hope that it may be an inducement to
 some unfortunate persons like myself, to put your well-tested powers to
 the proof, for your own and their good, as well as to show to *you*, that I
 conceive myself to have been very fortunate in receiving the benefit of
 your *satisfactory* skill and attention.

Yours, very respectfully.

MR. W. SWEET.

STEPHEN A. APLIN, JR.

In the month of June last, I fractured my knee pan for the third time :
 being acquainted with Mr. Waterman Sweet, I employed him, and, con-
 trary to my own and my friends expectations, have become as sound as
 before the last fracture, although the bone was broken in three instead of
 two pieces, as before. I believe him to be skilful in his profession, and
 any one having broken or dislocated bones, will, in my opinion, be fortu-
 nate in having his assistance.

STEPHEN A. APLIN, JR.

Providence, Oct. 20, 1829.

Nantucket, 3rd Month, 1830.

We, the subscribers, feel it a duty due from us to recommend Water-
 man Sweet as a man of superior skill in setting bones, that are out of their
 place, in any part of the human frame. Some of us, of a recent date, have
 been cripples and suffered much pain on account of our bones being out of
 their proper place, and some of us have suffered many years, and all hopes
 of recovery having vanished, and by the superior skill of Waterman Sweet
 have received much benefit, and many of us now have the use of our limbs
 and many of us are recruiting as fast as we have any reason to expect.—
 In his extensive operations, we do not know of an individual that has re-
 ceived the least injury.

CROMWELL BARNARD,
 REUB'N. JOY, *for himself, Anna*
Kay, and Samuel C. Joy,
 ELISHA GREEN.

This is to certify, that I had my hip bone put out of joint *twenty years*
 ago last September, and on the 29th of March, 1832, had it replaced by
 Dr. Waterman Sweet ; since then I have been mending every day.

JOHN A. KIRK.

Baltimore, May 11, 1832.

This is to certify, that I, Elizabeth M. Britt, of the city of Baltimore, have been lame upwards of thirty-three years. When young, having the advice of eminent physicians, they pronounced my lameness incurable. There was an entire deadness of the limb, and no hopes of recovery. Hearing of Dr. Waterman Sweet, I immediately applied to know if help could be afforded. He gave me immediate satisfaction, by putting the joints in place. In the course of three weeks, I was enabled to walk the length of the room, and, in the short space of four weeks, two squares and a half, with the assistance of a cane. ELIZABETH M. BRITT.

Baltimore, May 9, 1832.

This certifies, that I had a fall and dislocated my knee bone, and put my hip out of joint, and was unable to move my body for thirty-four days, and for fourteen weeks was unable to walk without crutches, and was in violent pain, and entirely lost the use of my limbs. But hearing of Dr. Sweet, and his great ability in bone setting, I applied to him and was perfectly cured, and am now in the full possession of my limbs, which can be attested by my father and others.

HANNAH P. BRAY.

ISAIAH BRAY,
father to the above.

This may certify that Mr. Waterman Sweet set bones in my family seven or eight years ago, which soon got well—and I have been acquainted with said Sweet for twelve or fourteen years, and know him to be a man of good moral character.

JELLIS SWART.

Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y. May 26, 1829.

To all whom it may concern, this certifies, that Mr. Waterman Sweet has attended my daughter for a weakness and injury to her arm and leg; and has greatly improved her, in the use of both limbs. And I recommend him to all whose limbs are dislocated, or who suffer under similar maladies.

NATH. WILLIAMS.

Baltimore, May 9, 1832.

This may certify, that I dislocated my knee, and after two days I called for Dr. Waterman Sweet and he said it was out of joint, and in a few moments he replaced it to my joy and satisfaction, and I soon got well.

PARDON HANDY.

Providence, February 10, 1829.

This is to certify, that I have been a cripple for sixteen months; my hip and knee were out of place, and I was not able to walk without crutches; and I am now able to go without. The cure was performed by Dr. Sweet.

RUTH MATTOCKS.

Baltimore, May 1, 1832.

This will certify, that we, James Helme and Juda Helme, are well acquainted with Dr. Waterman Sweet, and know him to be a man that bears a good moral character and religious sentiments, and has been a member of a Baptist society a number of years, and his character unimpeached ; we have known him to set bones ; when a young man he set Juda Helme's leg that was broken in two places, and out of joint. We know by experience that he is very skilful in setting bones. We have been eye witnesses to a number of his operations wherein he gave good satisfaction.

JAMES HELME
JUDA HELME.

Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y. May 26, 1829.

Baltimore, 3d mo. 9th, 1833.

This is to certify, that my eldest daughter, when about six years of age, was at school and playing with other children, by sliding on a wet plank, fell down and hurt herself, so as to cause her to be lame for several days, after which she got well enough to go to school again, but had frequent spells of lameness, often so as to be confined to the house. She continued getting worse, although many remedies were applied, but all without success. Physicians were applied to, who recommended the use of blisters and issues and to lay still in bed, which she did for about six months, after which she was able to walk about with a cane, but it was not long before she had to use crutches. She suffered almost continual pain, which increased with age—when about one year ago we heard of Waterman Sweet's being in Wilmington, performing many cures of dislocated joints. She was induced to go on to see him. She accordingly went on, with much pain caused by exercise in riding. She met with him the same evening, when, upon his examining her, he pronounced her hip, knee and ankle out of joint. He operated on her, in about half an hour, after having her bathed or rubbed with a preparation he makes for the purpose—when she arose up and walked across the floor without assistance. She felt immediate relief, and in a few days returned home, quite restored, with the exception of some soreness in the joints, which has gradually subsided, and now she is able to walk without limping, except from habit, and appears to be perfectly restored, to our great joy. I would, therefore, recommend all those who are afflicted with dislocated joints, to go to Waterman Sweet for relief.

JOHN NEEDLES.

N. B. My daughter was lame about twelve years.

New-York, February 15, 1832.

MR. WATERMAN SWEET—

Dear Sir—I have deferred writing to you until the present time, wishing to be fully satisfied of the permanent effects of your operations upon my child. You will recollect it is now about a year since you was called to see her. You found her leg withered to nothing but skin and bone, and as useless as a rag, not having been able to perform a single step without the use of a crutch for the last seven years, during which time I had employed several eminent physicians and surgeons, all of whom pronounced her case one of nervous debility ; no one ever intimating that her bones were displaced ; but administered medicine internally, and ordered frequent rubbing to produce a cutaneous excitement and circulation of the blood as the only possible means to restore the use of her limb ; all

of which were entirely ineffectual. Some person told my little daughter that *you* could cure her; and more to gratify her feelings, I assure you, than faith to believe you *could* do her any good, induced me to call on you; when you at once said her *hip, knee and ankle* were out of joint, and in one hour placed them all right, leaving nature to do the rest. It is now about one year and she has not used a crutch or even a staff, since you performed the operation, her leg has about doubled its former size and is now nearly as large as the other. She goes daily to school and limps but very little. We feel the utmost confidence that in time she will be perfectly well. You will please accept our heart-felt gratitude, for if a kind Providence had not sent you to us, our daughter must have been a cripple for life. We do most unhesitatingly recommend you to *all* laboring under similar complaints. Mrs. Kellogg, at 33 Sands street, Brooklyn, where I reside, is always gratified in answering the inquiries of any one, or if more satisfactory see my daughter herself, when any doubt, of even the most sceptical, of your superior skill as a bone setter, must be removed.

I am, sir, with much respect, your obliged and humble servant.

TIMO. KELLOGG.

No. 7, *Merchant's Exchange, N. Y.*

This is to certify, that I have been acquainted with Mr. Waterman Sweet about fifteen years, and think him to be a good moral character and a man of good standing in this place, and I am knowing of his setting a broken leg for Mr. Hulin that was very badly broken, and it got well and he had the use of it as well as the other, and have known him to be called on a number of times to set bones.

DANIEL STARK.

Glenville, May 27, 1829.

This may certify, that I have been under the care of Mr. Sweet for an enlargement and weakness of the ankle joint, which has troubled me for more than twenty years, and I can truly say that I have been greatly relieved, and, in fact, cured.

H. FOWLER.

New-York, February, 3, 1831.

This is to certify, that I have seen Dr. Waterman Sweet operate on rising of one hundred cases, and the most of them have received more or less benefit. I believe him to be a natural bone setter. I have seen those who could not use their limbs, till Dr. Sweet had operated on them, and now they have perfect use of them.

WM. R. COFFIN.

Nantucket, February, 1831.

I hereby certify, that I dislocated my ankle on the 1st of August, and cracked my out leg bone. I called on Waterman Sweet and he replaced it and it soon became useful. He has also performed several operations in my presence, and all done well so far as I know.

SWEETING TAFT.

Providence, October 21, 1829.

This may certify, that Mr. Waterman Sweet set a bone in my ankle which was dislocated in the fall of 1805—also a bone in my elbow some time in the winter of 1806; the bones soon got well and have not troubled me since. I have been acquainted with the aforesaid Sweet for rising of thirty years, and know him to be a man of a good moral character.

N. B. Mr. Sweet has set bones in my father's family.

JOHN T. GREEN.

Amsterdam, Montgomery County, N. Y. May 23, 1829.

I hereby certify, that three years ago I broke a bone in my ankle and it troubled me very much, and I called on Waterman Sweet, and he repaired it to my satisfaction.

CLARISSA D. HIGGINS.

Albany, May 29, 1829.

We certify, that my daughter Amanda, dislocated her ankle January, 1826, and about eight months after I called on Waterman Sweet; he set it to my satisfaction, and it soon got well.—*Albany, May 29, 1829.*

AMANDA M. HIGGINS,
C. HIGGINS.

Baltimore, March 9, 1833.

DR. WATERMAN SWEET—

Dear Sir—Hearing of your arrival in this city again, I avail myself of the occasion to perform a duty to you and the public, that I had some time since contemplated, to render you my voluntary testimony and grateful thanks, for the extraordinary and perfect cure you effected of my daughter.

Miss Dorsey had been ill for more than two years, the greater part of which time she was unable to walk, and suffered excruciating pain, with little hope of recovery, though attended by physicians of the highest talents: and when a faint prospect was afforded of returning bodily health, it held out only the melancholy prospect of seeing her a cripple for life, as weeks and months had passed in vain efforts to restore to use her dislocated limb, which was disjointed at the hip and toes, and contracted at the knee; until you attended her, when, at the very first application, we had the inexpressible delight to behold that she could put her heel to the floor, and in three weeks to have her accompany us to church; and I have just now parted from her in the street, walking as well as she ever did, and urged on by her to perform this duty, declaring at the same time that she thinks, but for you, she would have been a cripple for life.

Mrs. and Miss D. and all my family, unite in requesting to present to you their grateful acknowledgements, with, dear sir, your obliged friend and obedient humble servant,

JOSHUA DORSEY.

I do hereby certify, that, in consequence of a sprain in one of my feet, I have been unable to walk without crutches, except at one or two intervals, for nearly fourteen years; and for seven years past, the last three of which my lameness was much increased by a sprain of my other foot, I have at

no time been able to walk without them. The advice and prescriptions of the most respectable physicians had been resorted to without experiencing any beneficial effect, and I had become in a great measure reconciled to my misfortune, having very little hope of ever being able to use my feet again.

Being in Philadelphia a few weeks since, and hearing of the many surprising cures performed by Mr. Waterman Sweet, the "*natural bone setter*," I was induced to apply to him; and contrary to my own expectations, and those of my friends, I am now able to walk about comfortably, and as four weeks have elapsed since the operation, I have no doubt the cure will be permanent.

Gratitude to Mr. Sweet, and a desire that others afflicted in like manner, may be induced to apply to him for relief, are my motives for furnishing this brief statement of facts in my case.

VIOLETTA P. BUCK.

Bridgeton, N. J. June 26, 1832.

Being personally familiar with the circumstances of the case alluded to in the above certificate, I cheerfully testify to the correctness of the statement.

F. N. BUCK.

Philadelphia, July 23, 1832.

This may certify, that the last of February, 1830, stepping out of a sleigh I injured my hip, knee, and ankle, and remained on crutches three months. Being advised by Dr. Talman of this city, to see Dr. Sweet, the natural bone setter, who was then in New-York setting bones, I was induced to take a safety barge down, and call him on board. When he had examined my case he said my joints were dislocated. By my desire he replaced them, when I could walk a little, and kept improving and gaining strength as fast as could be expected. I was obliged to use my crutches for about six weeks after the operation, when I gave them up and have not had occasion to use them since. I think if I had listened to the physicians here, I should not have been living, as I was consuming away with weakness and pain; they told me there were not any bones out, but a very bad sprain.

To Dr. Sweet I must here say, I never can be thankful enough towards you for setting me on my feet and enabling me to walk about, which at one time I never expected was possible. I shall always remember you with feelings of gratitude and thankfulness.

I remain your sincere friend,

MARY C. MACY.

Hudson, August 12.

I hereby certify, that Mrs. Mary Whipple came to my house with her wrist very badly dislocated. It had been out about twelve weeks, and she had called on a doctor to no purpose. She called on Dr. Waterman Sweet, and he immediately replaced it to her satisfaction, and I have heard that it was doing well. Also, he has performed several other operations with success and satisfaction.

RICHARD SMITH.

Providence, Oct. 21, 1829.

I feel it my duty to the public, and particularly to the afflicted part of society, to testify to an extraordinary cure effected by Mr. Waterman Sweet, in replacing the ankle joint of my son, (after six years' suffering) which was effected in a few minutes, with but little additional pain, in my presence, in a very mechanical and skilful manner, for which he has my sincere thanks.

SAMUEL TILLER.

Philadelphia, March 18, 1833.

This may certify, that I have been some time acquainted with Dr. Waterman Sweet in his visits to this island, and am well satisfied that he is well skilled in the practice of bone setting, and within my knowledge has relieved many that were troubled with dislocated bones.

JAMES BARKER.

Nantucket, 4th mo. 13, 1830.

State of New-York, Montgomery County, Township of Florida, ss.

This may certify, that I have been personally acquainted with Dr. Waterman Sweet for some twenty-five or thirty years, and that during that time I have known him to practice bone setting to some considerable extent and with very good success, and as it respects his moral or religious character, it is unblemished.

Given under my hand this 28th day of May, 1829.

PALMER ROWLAND.

This may certify, that Mr. Waterman Sweet has set bones in my family, and in my father's family, and many others in the neighborhood where I live, and I have been acquainted with the aforesaid Sweet for upwards of thirty-five years, and know him to be a man of a good moral character.

HENRY MALLERY.

Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y.

This may certify, that I was lame from a fall for three years and six months, not able to take a step without the use of crutches, at the same time suffering the most trying sensations in my ankle and at times severe pain. After trying several of the most skilful physicians, and despairing of ever enjoying the inestimable privilege again, we were told by some of our friends of the cures the great bone setter, Waterman Sweet, had performed; soon after which father wrote to him—he came and performed an operation, which enabled me to lay aside my crutches, and I have not used them since. It is now better than a year, and I enjoy the full privilege of walking, besides the restoration of my health, which are privileges I know not how to be thankful enough for. May those who are in a similar situation be encouraged. With the most heartfelt thanks I set my name to this.

REBECCA HENDRICKSON.

Father also sets his name with the greatest delight.

JOSEPH HENDRICKSON.

Crosswick, N. J. 7th mo. 20th, 1833.





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